



DARK NIGHTS

1

MEET



**Scott
Snyder**

**Greg
Capullo**

**Jonathan
Glapion**

**FCO
Plascencia**



DC UNIVERSE
REBIRTH

MR. OZ'S IDENTITY REVEALED!



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DISCOVER THE TRUTH IN THIS
5-PART STORY BEGINNING IN #987

WRITTEN BY

DAN JURGENS

ART BY

**VIKTOR
BOGDANOVIC
& RYAN SOOK**

SUPERMAN

ACTION
COMICS

THE **OZ EFFECT**

SEPT

Features lenticular motion covers by Nick Bradshaw



DARK NIGHTS

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**FCO
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SIMCEE
WALLIAM
SINC



DARK NIGHTS

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JR JR
17 WHITE



DARK NIGHTS

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DEER



Andy
Fieber
BK

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DARK NIGHTS

1

METAL



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DARK NIGHTS

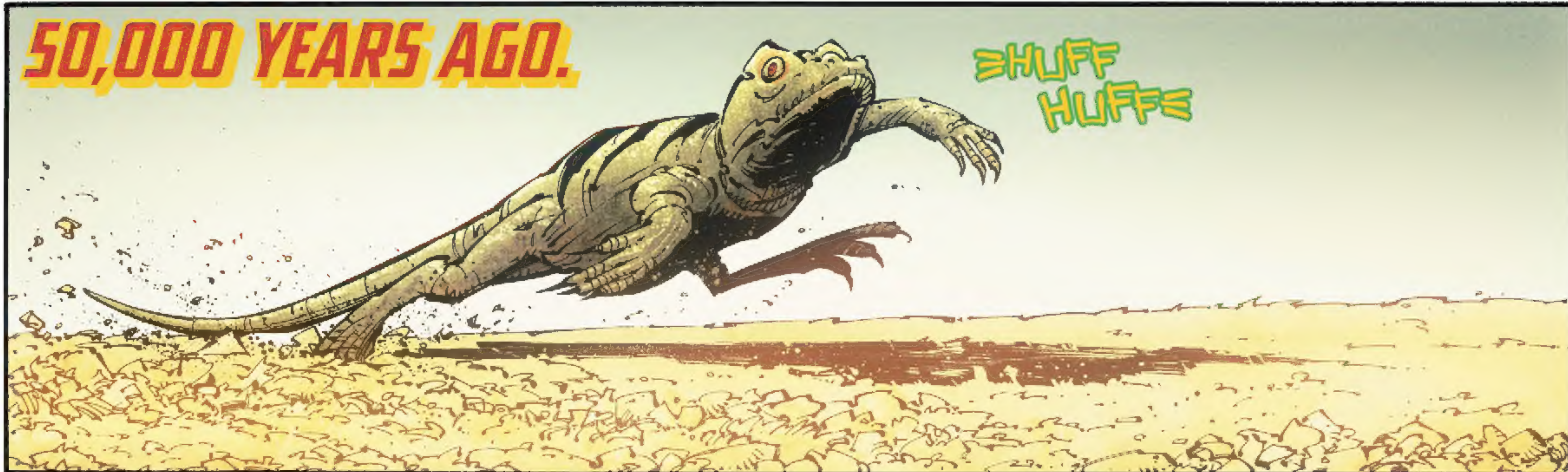
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METAL



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50,000 YEARS AGO.



Lost to history is a story.



A story about how, in these lands, during the Age of Stone, there were three great tribes of man. Tribe of the Wolf, of the Bear and of the Bird.



All were nomadic, and shared a grand dream-- a dream of discovery.

But soon, a fourth tribe rose. A dark tribe, unlike the others...

...one of twisted dreams-- dreams turned inside out.



And with its terrible rise, so began The Age...



...of Metal.

RIGHT NOW.



**BEHOLD!
YOUR MIGHTY
JUSTICE LEAGUE...**

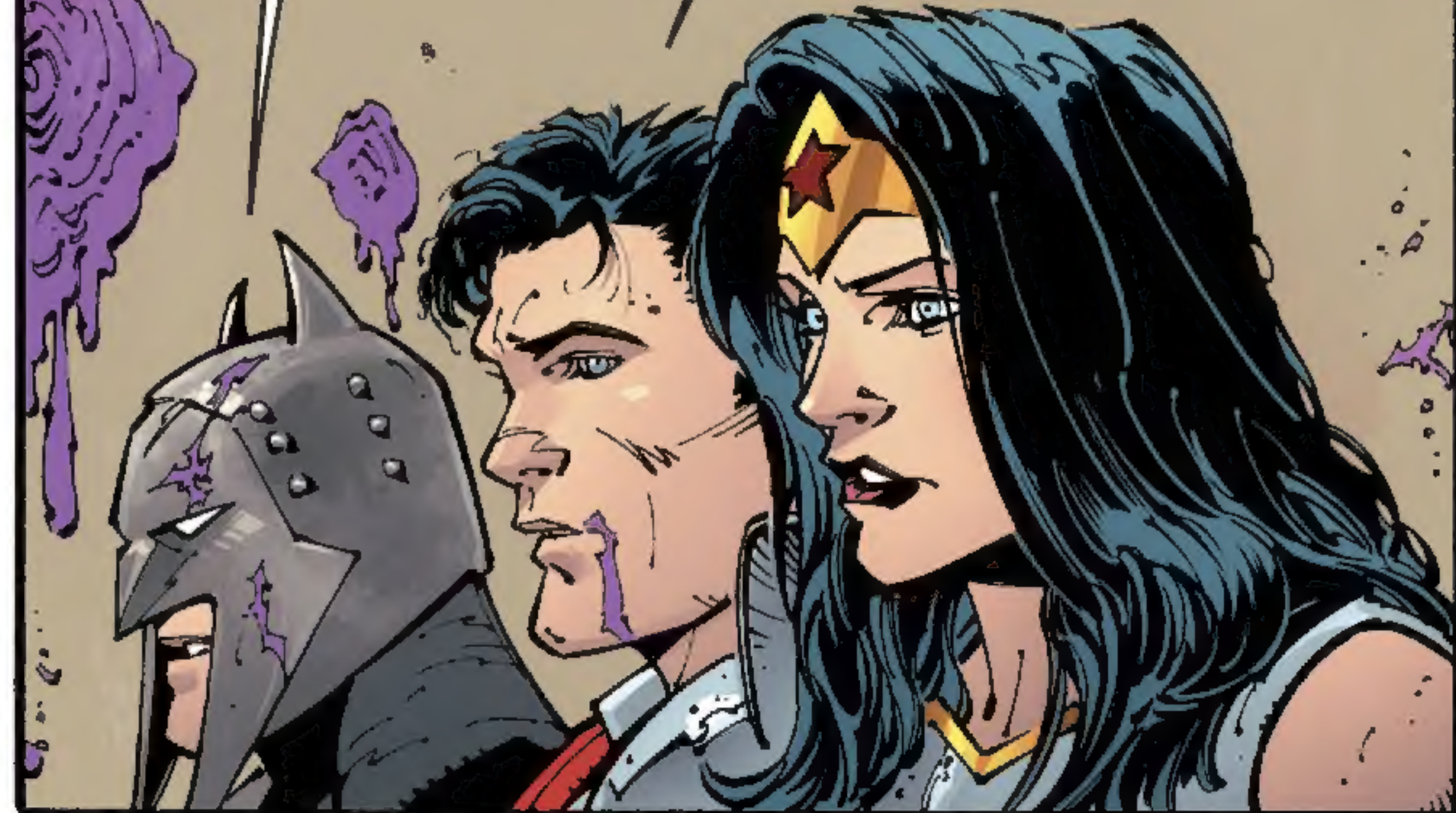
**"MIGHTY." HA!
WHAT DEATH DESIGN
SHOULD THEY FACE
NEXT? SOMETHING
SPECIAL, EH?**



IT DOESN'T
MAKE ANY SENSE.
MONGUL WAS BEING
KEPT UNDER WATCH BY
THE BRAALIANS AFTER
HIS FIGHT WITH
GENERAL ZOD. HOW
HE BUILT A NEW
WAR MOON...

FOCUS,
BATMAN. WHAT
WE NEED TO DO
IS FIGURE A
WAY OUT OF
HERE.

WHAT
WE NEED
TO DO IS
WIN.





JUST LOOK
AT THEM. HOBBLING
SO EASILY! MADE
WEAK BY THE VERY
ARMOR I FASTENED
TO THEM!



TAKE NOTE,
FRIENDS! ALL YOU NEED
IS THE DUST OF A FEW
THOUSAND CRUSHED
RED SUNS...



...SOME
VIBRATION-
DOMINATION
BOOTS FROM OUR
FRIENDS THE
DOMINATORS...



...A LOCK
FROM STHENO,
THE ELDER
GORGON, VENOM
INFUSED...



...A FEW MORE
TRINKETS FOR THE
REST, AND SUDDENLY
THESE "HEROES" ARE
FORCED TO FIGHT
FOR REAL, EH?!

SO WHAT SHALL THEY BATTLE?! LET'S
ASK MY FAVORITE RESIDENT SLAVE,
MR. HIRO, THE TOYMAN! NOW SPEAK
UP, BOY! WHAT COMES THROUGH
MY GATES?!

I CALL
IT FULCUM
ABOMINUS.



HAHA!

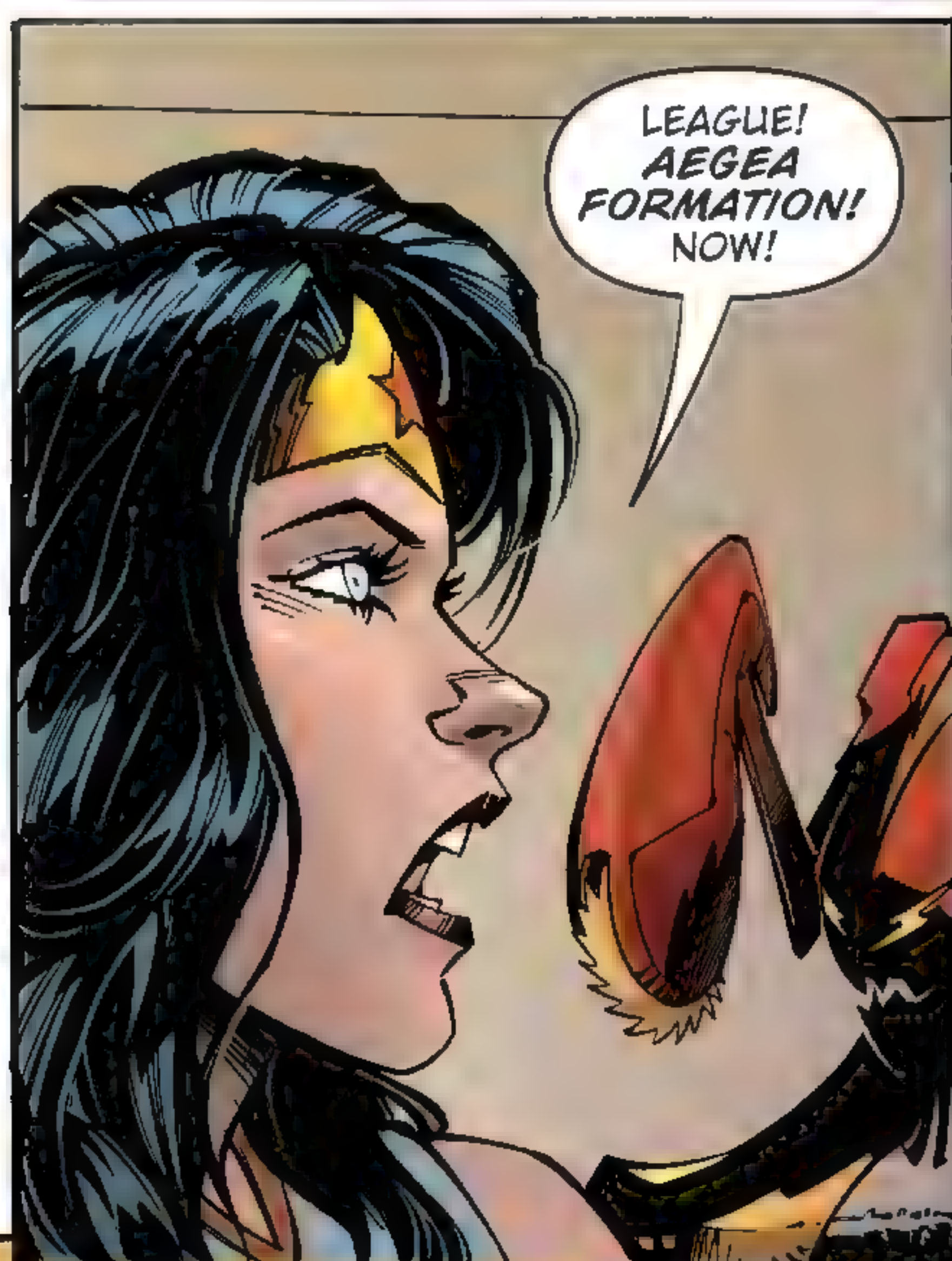
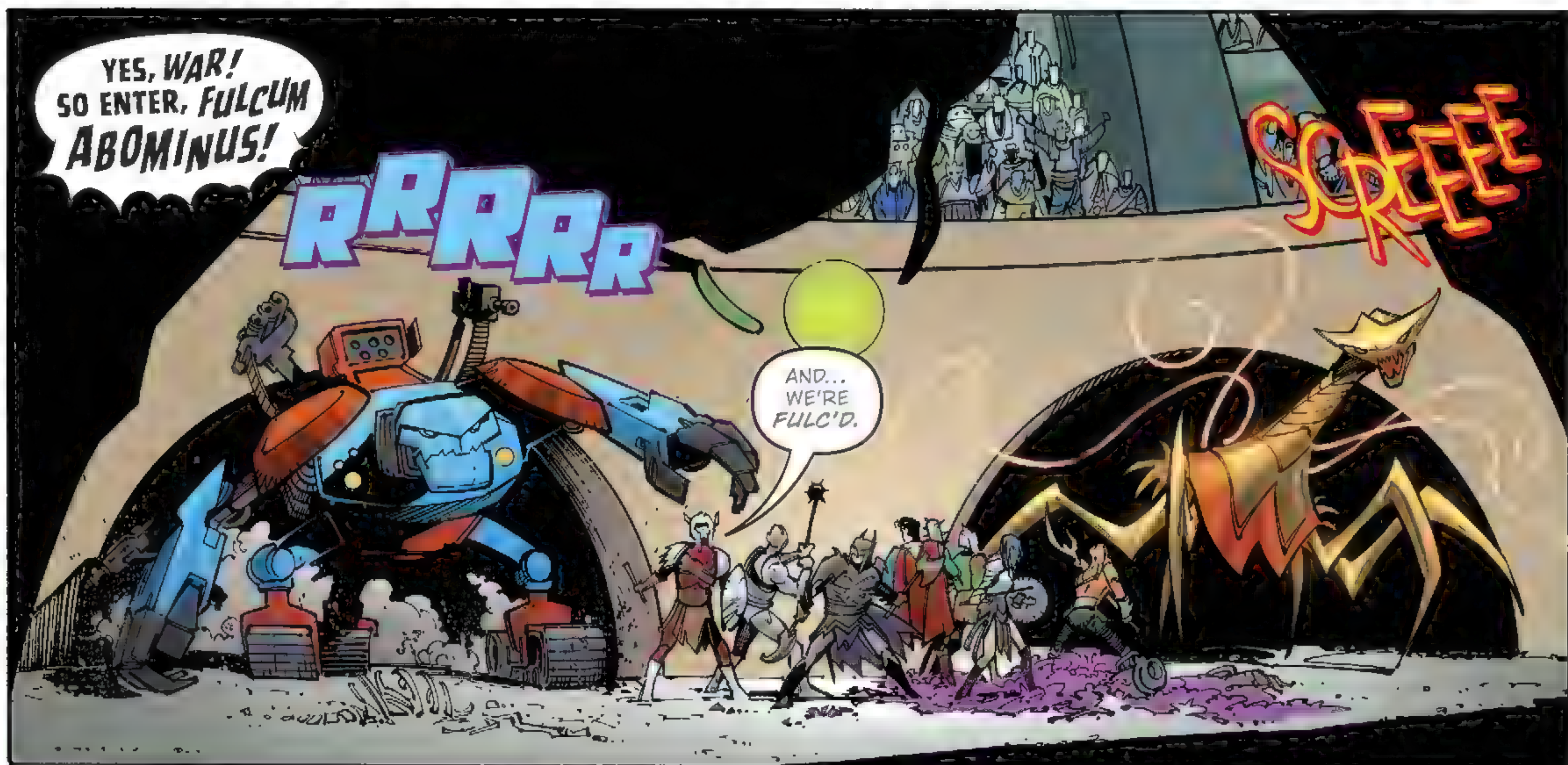
FULCUM
ABOMINUS.

III LOVE IT!
AND NOW, MY FRIENDS,
IT'S THAT TIME!

TIME...
TO...



GO TO
WAR!
GO TO
WAR!

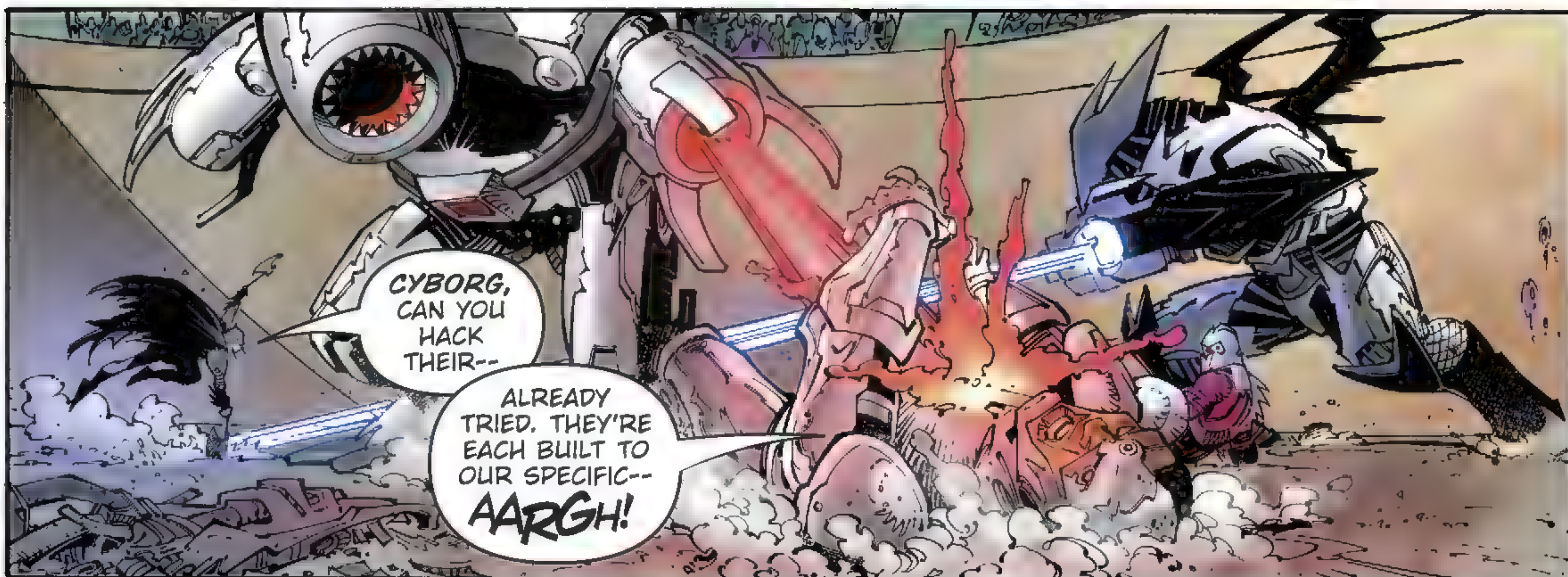


LEAGUE!
AEGEA
FORMATION!
NOW!



NOW, LET
THE BATTLE...
BEGIN!

DO NOT RUN! PAIN IS FUN!



CYBORG,
CAN YOU
HACK
THEIR--

ALREADY
TRIED. THEY'RE
EACH BUILT TO
OUR SPECIFIC--
AARGH!

AQUAMAN, WE NEED THESE
WHEEL CHOCKS OFF! THIS
GAUNTLET'S MICRO BLACK HOLE
IS KILLING MY RING'S--
WHOA!

I'M AT HALF
STRENGTH, TOO,
GREEN LANTERN.
THESE BLASTED
SLEEVES...

...SOME KIND
OF PIT GLASS
FROM THE FIRES OF
APOKOLIPS...
THE HEAT...

WONDER WOMAN,
MAYBE ~~UNH~~ THE
BEASTS CAN BE TRICKED
INTO BREAKING THIS
ARMOR OFF US!

WELL, MINE HAS A
CASSANDRA ENGINE.
EVERY MOVE I
MAKE...

SUPERMAN,
CAN YOU...?

ALREADY
TRYING!

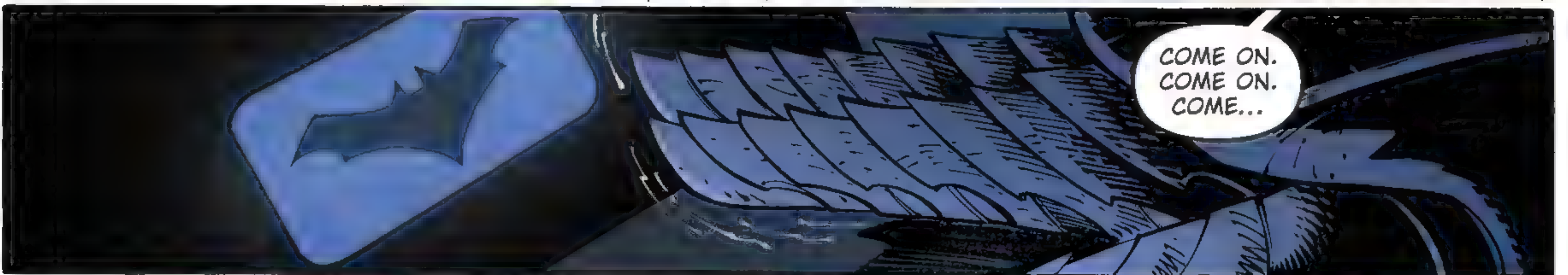
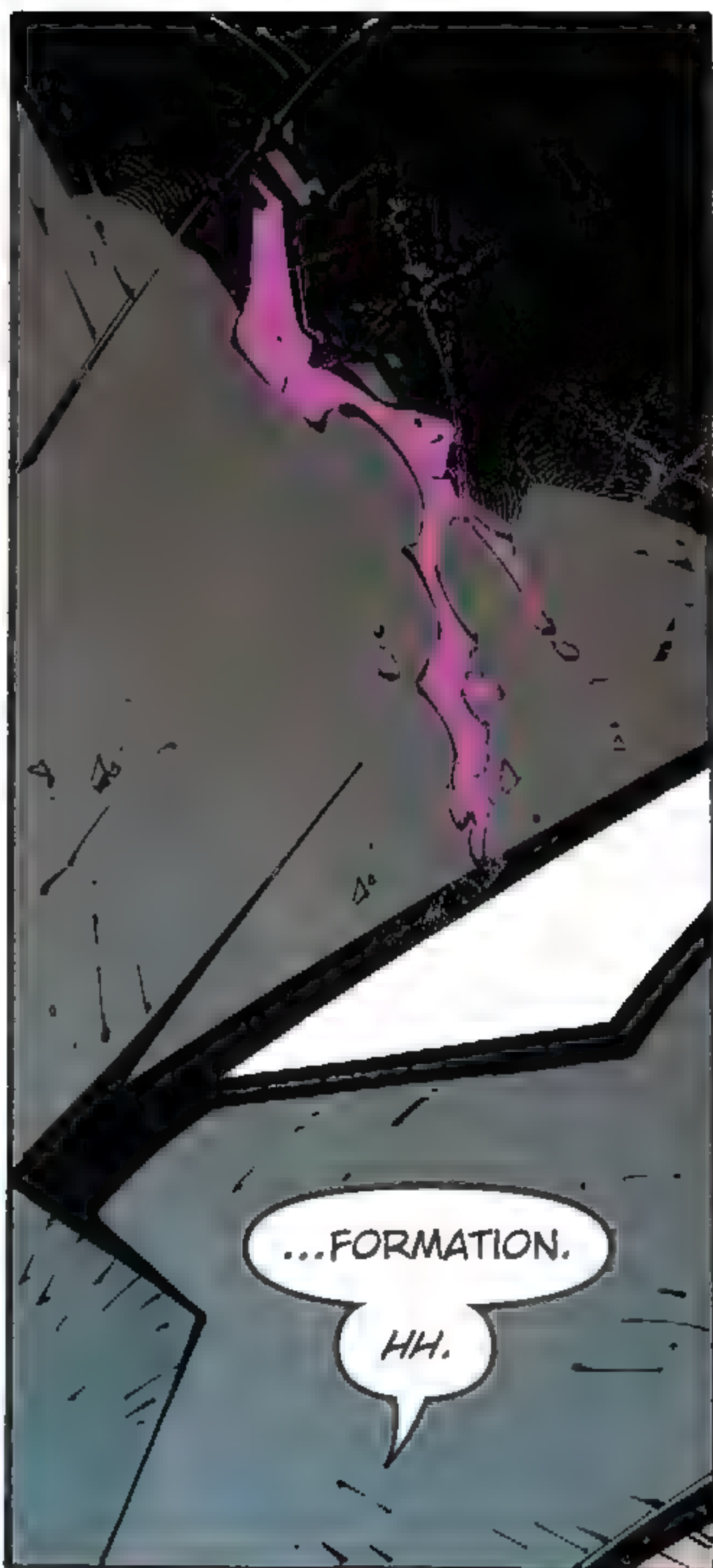
CLANG

**BUDDA
BUDDA
BUDDA**

NO GO! THEY
AVOID THE ARMOR!
AGH! THEY ONLY
GO FOR THE
FLESH!

KRANG

STILL,
THEY'RE JUST
MACHINES! THEY
HAVE TO HAVE A
WEAKNESS!



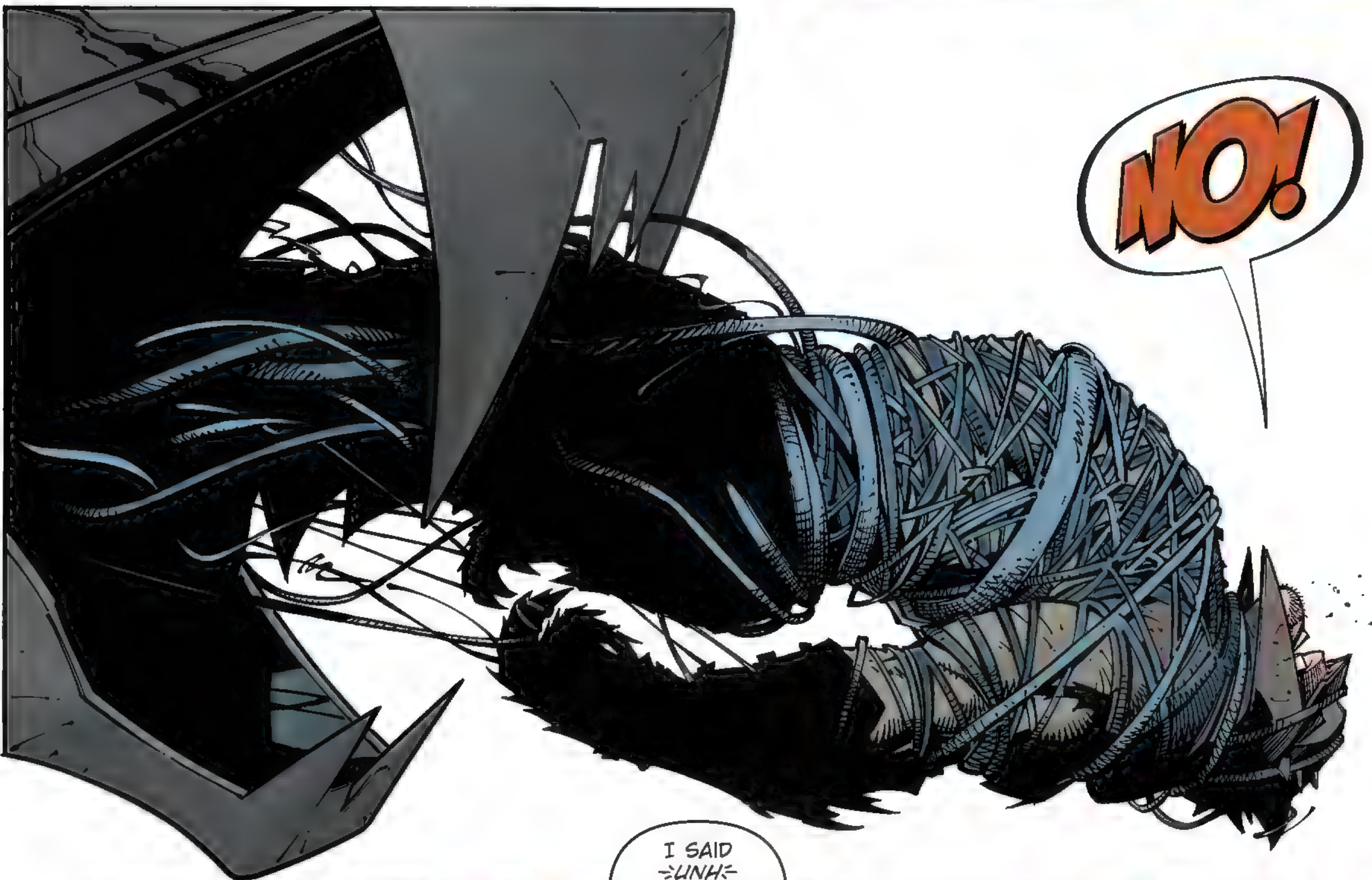


EITHER WE
HELP HIM, OR HE'S
GONNA NEED YOUR
OLD HARPOON
HAND*--WE HAVE
TO MOVE NOW!

I'M TOO
SLOW WITH
THESE BOOTS.
I'LL COVER
YOU!

ALL RIGHT.
GOING IN
THREE...TWO
...ON--

*SEE THE 90S.
-EDDIE & TAY



I SAID
=UNH=
FOLLOW MY
LEAD,
DAMMIT!

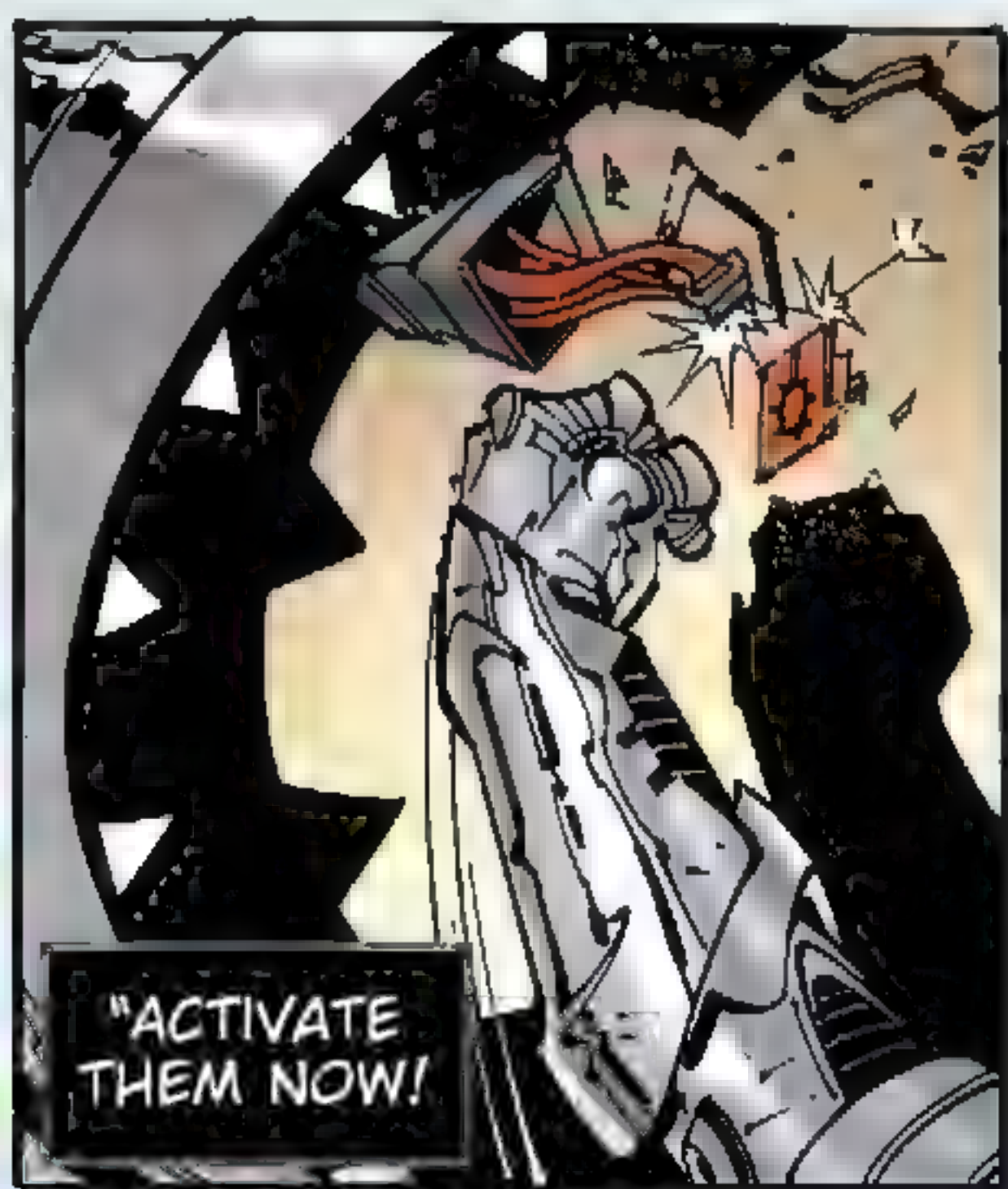




"THERE ARE
SYMBOLS..."



"...INSIDE THE MOUTHS!"



"ACTIVATE
THEM NOW!"



"HOWEVER
YOU CAN!"



AND
THEN?



"AND THEN LET THEM EAT YOU!"

YOU HEARD HIM!
THEN LET THEM--
--WAITWHAT?



ARGH!

SEE, THIS IS
WHY WE VOTE ON
STRATEGY!

GOOD PLANS?
THEY DON'T
HURT THIS MUCH!
IT'S TEARING
INTO MY--
AAAAH!

QUIET,
CYBORG.

LISTEN TO ME. BE CALM. LET IT HAPPEN. IT'S ALL IN THE NAME. **FULCUM ABOMINUS. ABOMINUS**, LIKE SOMETHING THAT **DEFIES** THE ORDER OF THINGS...

...AND **FULCUM** FROM THE LATE ROMAN PERIOD. A **WARRIOR FORMATION** CRY MADE FROM DEEP IN THE THROAT, A CALL TO LOCK **SHIELDS**.

TOYMAN WAS GIVING US A CLUE. HIS WAY OUT OF THIS...A TRICK HE PLAYED ON **MONGUL**.

WHAT TRICK?! WHY ARE THESE THINGS **ABSORBING** US?

I KNOW THIS CRY. IT MEANS "COME TOGETHER AS ONE."

COME TOGETHER AS ONE **WHAT?** MEAL?!

ONE **WARRIOR**.

BRUCE, PLEASE TELL ME YOU'RE KIDDING.

HEH. PLEASE TELL ME YOU'RE **NOT?**

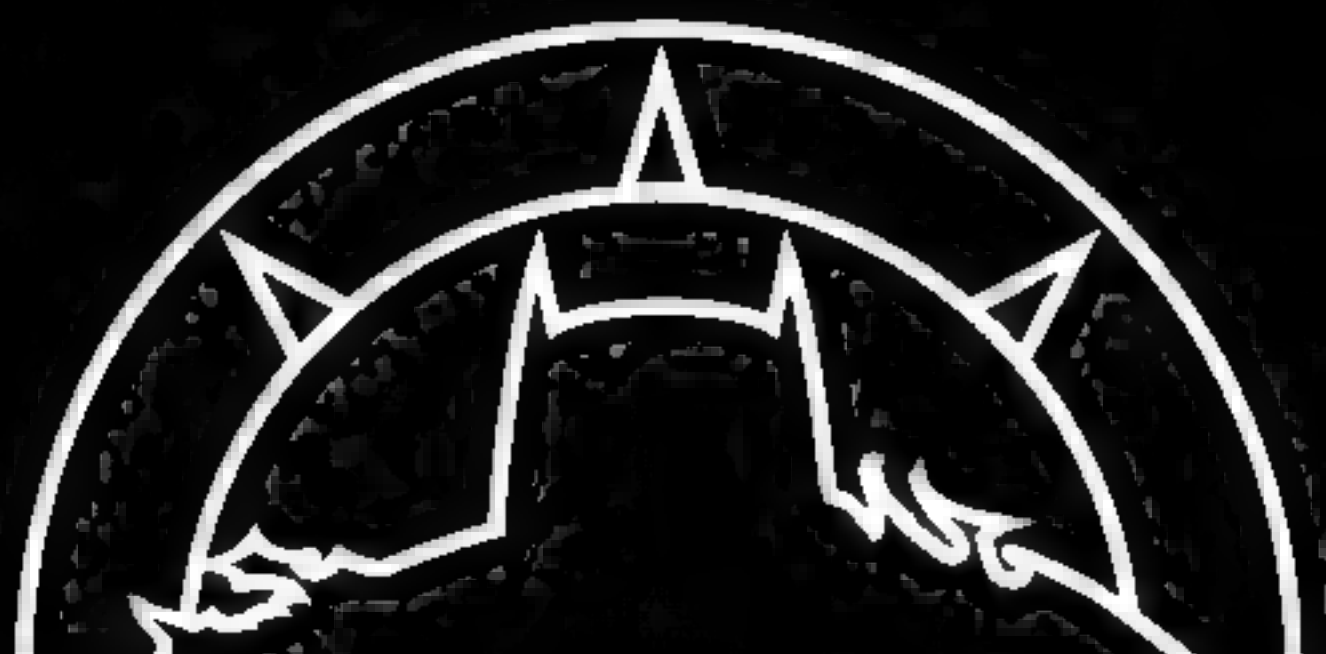
BECAUSE IF WHAT YOU'RE SAYING IS WHAT I **THINK** YOU'RE SAYING...

THE CROWD WANTS **WAR...**





A DC COMICS EVENT



Scott "Doom Commander" Snyder Script

Greg "Pain Bringer" Capullo Pencils

Jonathan "Guillotine" Glapion Inks

FCO "Killer" Plascencia Colors

Steve "The Slayer" Wands Letters

Capullo, Glapion & Plascencia Cover

**Jim "Jackknife" Lee, Scott "Skull Collector" Williams
& Alex "Assassin" Sinclair Variant Cover**

**Andy "The Carnage" Rubert
& Brad "Bonebreaker" Anderson Variant Cover**

**John "Damage" Romita Jr., Danny "Destruction"
Miki & Dean "Decimator" White Variant Cover**

**Eddie "Berserker" Berganza
& Rebecca "The Wrath" Taylor Editors**

Dave "BloodBath" Wielgosz Assistant Editor

**Superman created by Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster.
By special arrangement with the Jerry Siegel family.**

Batman created by Bob Kane with Bill Finger.

Special thanks to Mark "Mayhem" Doyle



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GET READY.
ATMOSPHERE
APPROACHING IN
THIRTY
SECONDS.

YOU DO
KNOW YOU'RE
NOT FLYING
THAT THING,
RIGHT?

AND THAT'S WHY
I CHOOSE TO RIDE
OUTSIDE THE SHIP.
IN COLD, DEAD,
SPACE.

I LIKED
MY FULC'D
JOKE.

BATMAN, WHAT
YOU SAID ABOUT THE
BRAALIAN. YOU'RE RIGHT.
THEY WOULDN'T LOSE TRACK
OF MONGUL UNLESS
SOMETHING SEISMIC
WAS GOING ON.

DOES THIS HAVE
ANYTHING TO DO WITH
WHAT YOU'VE BEEN
INVESTIGATING?

WITH WHY YOU
CAME TO THE FORTRESS?
WHAT HAPPENED IN THE
CAVE? BATMAN?

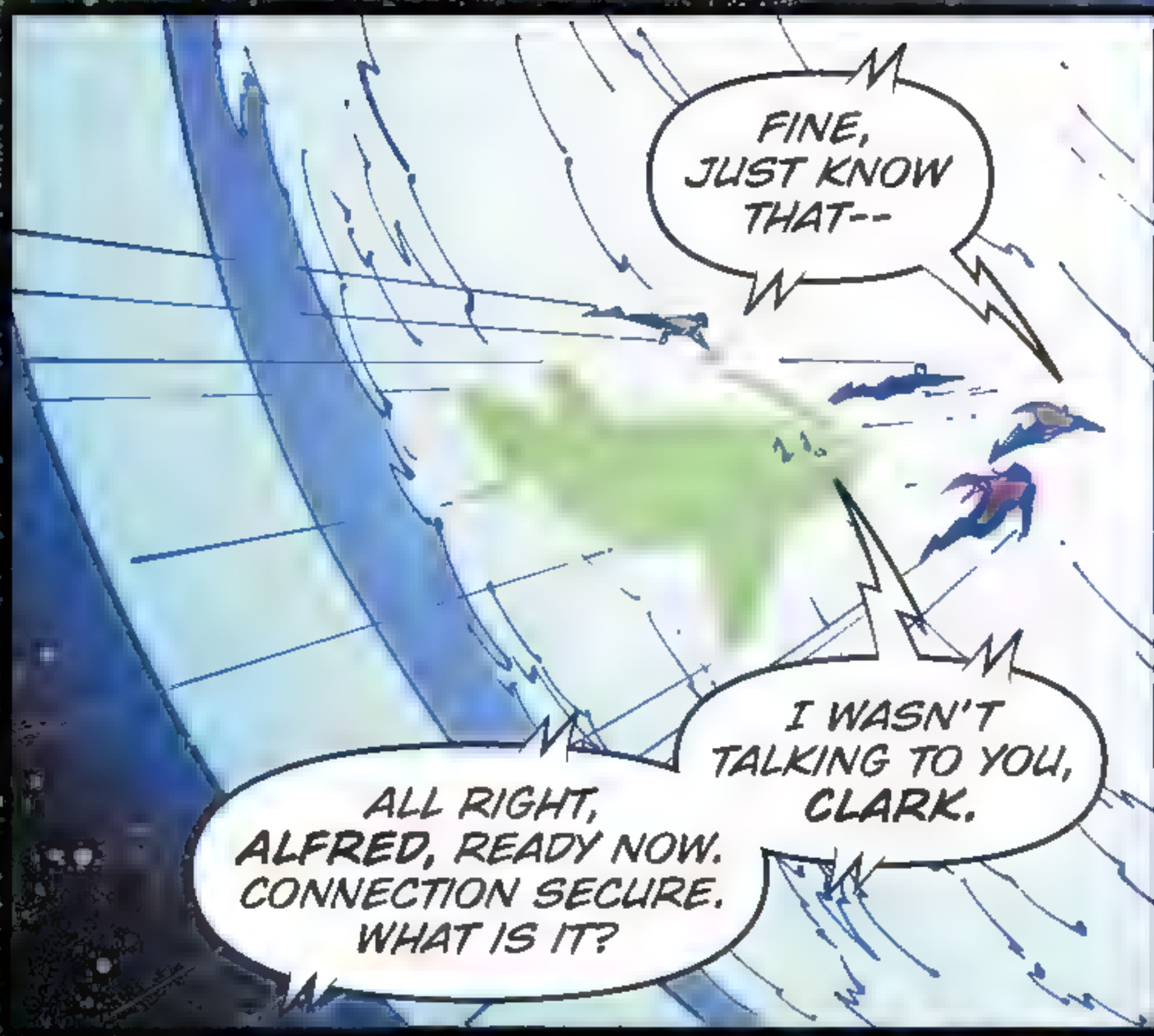
BRUCE.

*SEE DARK DAYS:
THE FORGE
& THE CASTING
-EDDIE & TAY



HEY.
LISTEN, I
KNOW YOU'VE
BEEN GOING
THROUGH A
LOT LATELY. IF
YOU WANT
TO--

I'M NOT
READY.



FINE,
JUST KNOW
THAT--

I WASN'T
TALKING TO YOU,
CLARK.

ALL RIGHT,
ALFRED, READY NOW.
CONNECTION SECURE.
WHAT IS IT?



SIR! THANK GOD.
I'VE BEEN USING EVERY
POSSIBLE LINE OF
COMMUNICATION--

SLOW DOWN,
ALFRED. WHAT
HAPPENED?

IT'S
GOTHAM,
SIR.

WHAT
ABOUT
GOTHAM?



I'M...
I'M AFRAID
YOU'RE GOING
TO HAVE TO
SEE IT FOR
YOURSELF...

GOTHAM CITY.

A MOUNTAIN.
A BLOODY MOUNTAIN
IN THE MIDDLE
OF--

START
FROM THE
BEGINNING,
ALFRED.

THERE WAS SOME
KIND OF...ENERGY
STORM IN THE CITY
CENTER...

...DARK
LIGHTNING
EVERYWHERE...THEY
EVACUATED THE
AREA AND
THEN...

...THEN THE CITY,
IT SEEMED TO MAKE
ROOM, TO CREATE
SPACE AND THIS...THIS
MOUNTAIN
APPEARED.

...HOW ARE WE
EVER GOING TO...THE
DEVASTATION...

I'M
STANDING IN
IT. SCRAMBLE
THE FAMILY.
BATMAN
OUT.

BRUCE, THE
ENERGY COMING
OFF THAT MOUNTAIN. IT'S
LIKE WHAT I FELT FROM
YOUR MACHINE IN
THE CAVE.

THE
STONE IS
NOT VOLCANIC.
IT DIDN'T
COME FROM
BENEATH THE
SURFACE.

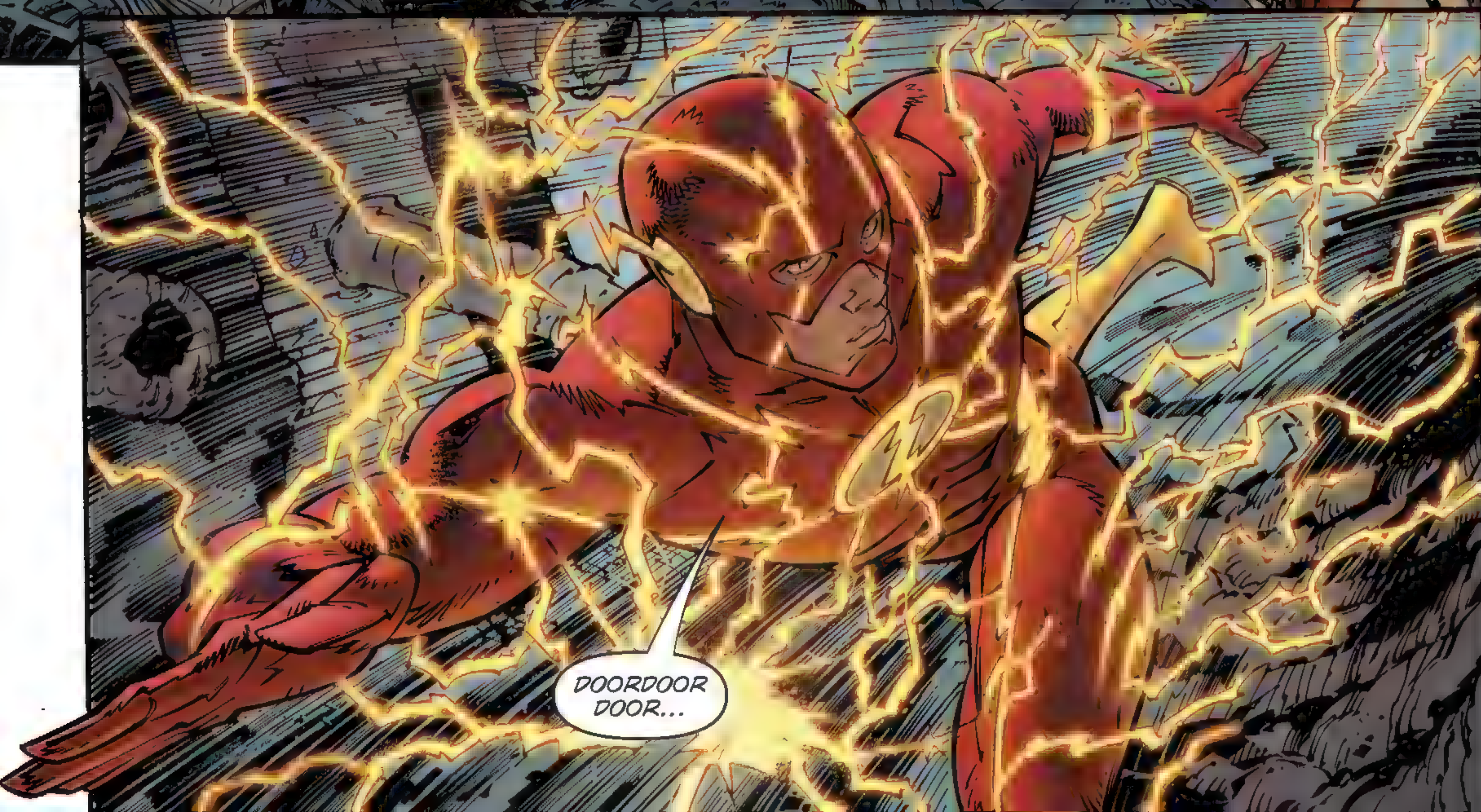
THAT
MOUNTAIN
CAME FROM
SOMEWHERE
ELSE.

WHATEVER
IT IS, ARTHUR, IT'S
HOLLOW. THERE'S A
BUNKER OF SOME
KIND INSIDE.
FLA--

ALREADY
ON IT.

WE'RE ALL
TAPPED INTO THE
WATCHTOWER'S
WARNING SYSTEM,
BRUCE. WHATEVER
THIS IS, THERE'S
NO WAY YOU COULD
HAVE KNOWN.
THERE WERE
NO SIGNS.

THERE
ARE ALWAYS
SIGNS, DIANA.
WE JUST
DIDN'T SEE
THEM.



DOORDOOR
DOOR...



WHOA.
BIG
DOOR.

VIC,
I'M SENDING
YOU THE
IMAGE...



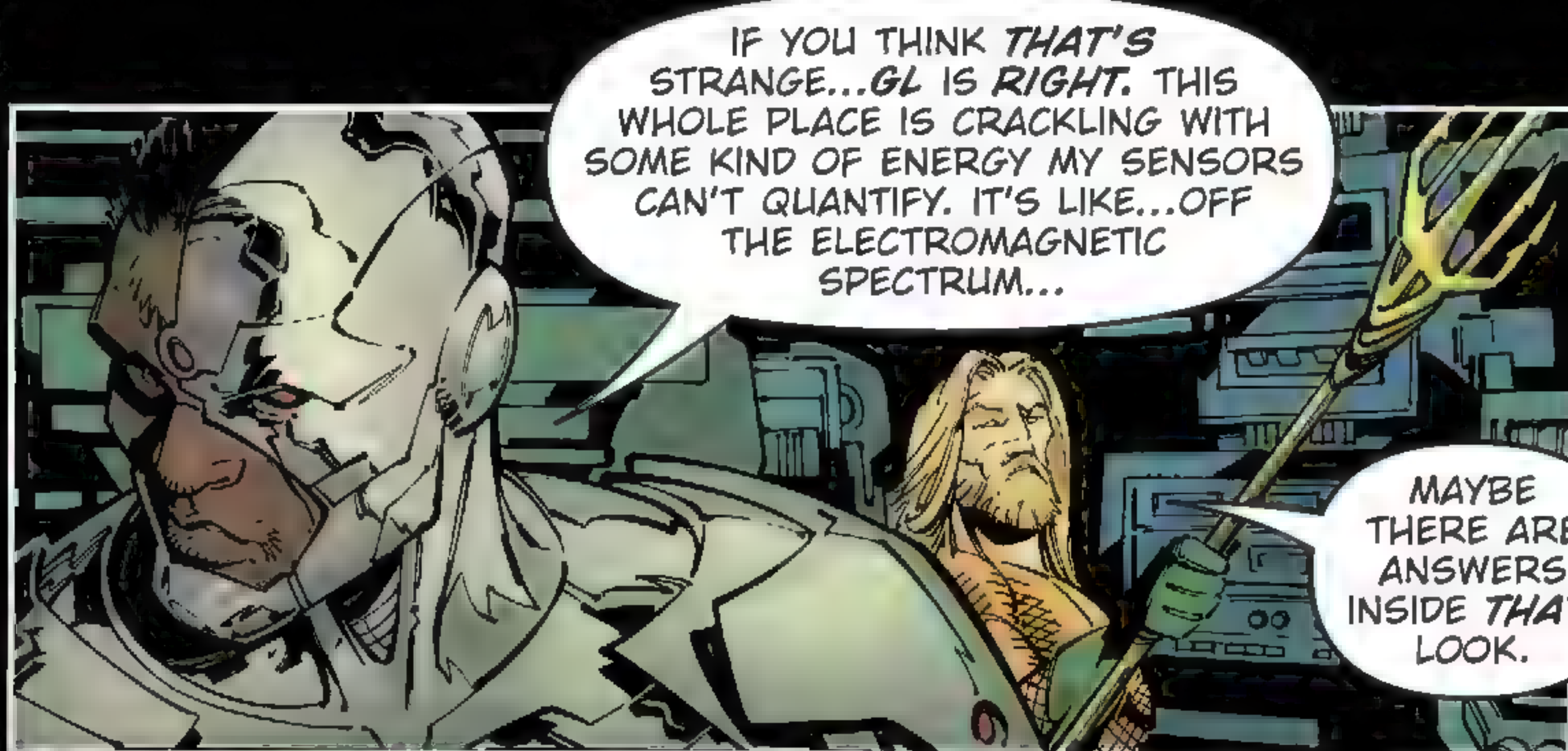
GOT IT, BARRY.
I'VE RUN IT OVER A
THOUSAND TIMES
ALREADY...



"...BUT IT KEEPS COMING UP 'UNKNOWN.'"

MAN, LOOK AT ALL THIS...WHAT IS IT, SOME KIND OF LABORATORY?

POSSIBLY. THE TECHNOLOGY IS STRANGE, THOUGH. OUTDATED IN MATERIALS, BUT ADVANCED IN DESIGN.



IF YOU THINK *THAT'S* STRANGE...*GL* IS RIGHT. THIS WHOLE PLACE IS CRACKLING WITH SOME KIND OF ENERGY MY SENSORS CAN'T QUANTIFY. IT'S LIKE...OFF THE ELECTROMAGNETIC SPECTRUM...

MAYBE THERE ARE ANSWERS INSIDE *THAT*. LOOK.



HUH. THAT'S TITANIUM ALLOY. MUST BE SOME KIND OF SPACE POD...?

BUT THERE ARE NO ENGINES FOR FLYING. WHICH BEGS THE QUESTION AGAIN...



"...WHAT THE HELL IS THIS PLACE?"

THIS MUST BE THE CORE. I CAN FEEL THE ENERGY COMING OFF IT MYSELF.

ME TOO. MY GOD, THERE ARE *PEOPLE* IN THERE. FIVE OF THEM. AND THEY'RE ALIVE? IN SOME KIND OF *CRYO*...WE HAVE TO--

WAIT. CYBORG IS RIGHT. THE READINGS ARE TROUBLING. WE NEED TO KNOW WHAT THIS PLACE IS FIRST.

HAL, THIS ENERGY...IT'S SCARING ME. YOU SAID YOU FELT SOMETHING LIKE IT IN THE CAVE?

THIS IS WAAAAAY WORSE. IT'S--

GETTING STRONGER BY THE SECOND. I FEEL IT.

THIS ANDROID...IF I CAN *ACTIVATE* HIM, WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO FIGURE OUT WHAT'S GOING ON HERE AND *WHERE* THESE GUYS HAVE BEEN.

WELL, WHEREVER THEY WERE...



*SEE ALL-STAR BATMAN #6-9
-EDDIE & TAY



...MY NAME IS KENDRA SAUNDERS.

AND YOU DON'T KNOW ME, BUT I KNOW ALL OF YOU.

SO I NEED YOU COME WITH ME NOW.

COME WITH YOU? THERE'S A CITY OUTSIDE, **BROKEN**. THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE **TERRIFIED**. YOU MIGHT NOT HEAR THEM BUT I CAN.

BESIDE, HOW DO WE KNOW THIS ISN'T THE START OF SOMETHING **BIGGER**?



IT **IS**, FLASH. THIS IS THE **FIRST SHOT FIRED**...



...OF A **FULL SCALE INVASION**.

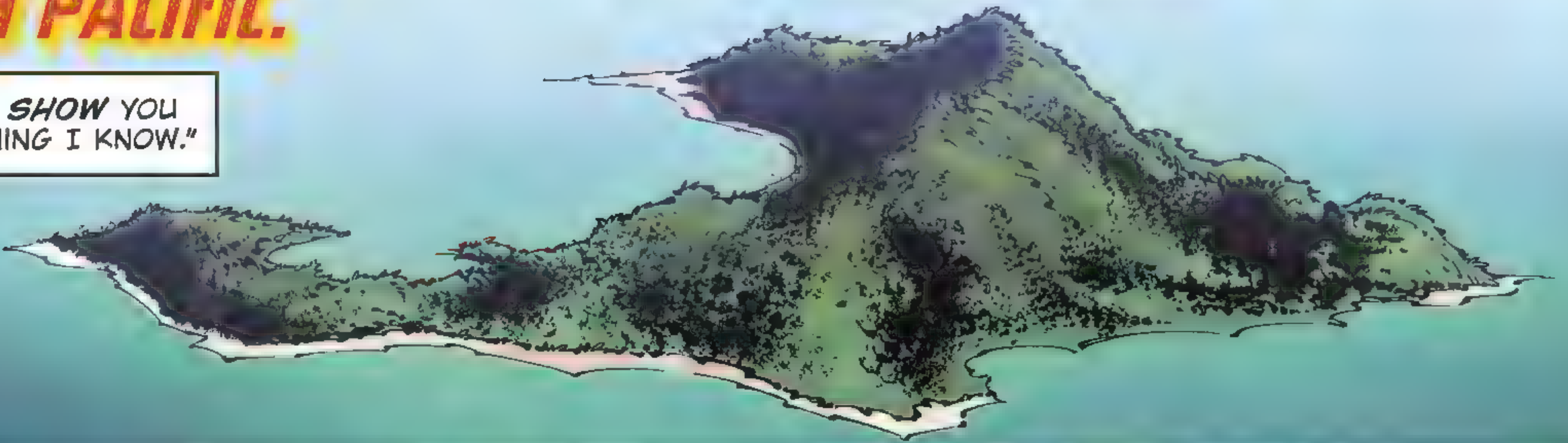
ONE THAT'S BEEN PLANNED FOR CENTURIES.

BY **WHO**?

I WON'T SPEAK THE NAME HERE. IT'S TOO DANGEROUS. FOR THE CITY...MAYBE FOR THE **WHOLE WORLD**. BUT IF YOU COME WITH ME...

SOUTH PACIFIC.

"...I'LL **SHOW** YOU EVERYTHING I KNOW."



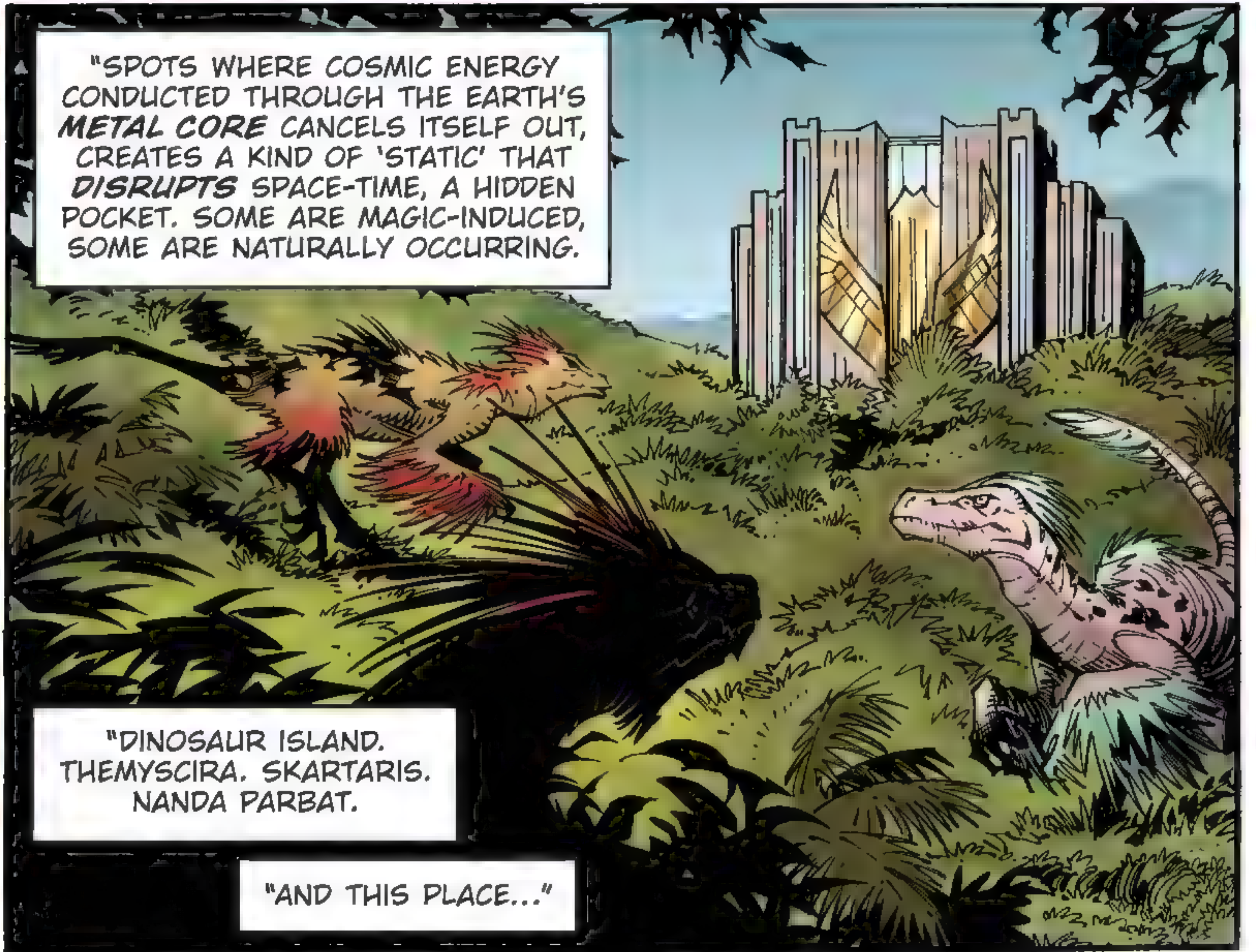
"THERE ARE PLACES ON THIS PLANET THAT LIE OUTSIDE OF THE NORMAL MATH OF THINGS. SOME EXIST AT WHAT WE BELIEVE ARE **PHANTOM FREQUENCIES**."



"SPOTS WHERE COSMIC ENERGY CONDUCTED THROUGH THE EARTH'S **METAL CORE** CANCELS ITSELF OUT, CREATES A KIND OF 'STATIC' THAT **DISRUPTS** SPACE-TIME, A HIDDEN POCKET. SOME ARE MAGIC-INDUCED, SOME ARE NATURALLY OCCURRING."

"DINOSAUR ISLAND. THEMYSKIRA. SKARTARIS. NANDA PARBAT."

"AND THIS PLACE..."





...BLACKHAWK ISLAND.

YOU SPOKE OF AN INVASION, KENDRA. YOU PROMISED TO TELL US WHO WAS **BEHIND** IT. EVERY MINUTE WE SPEND IN THIS PLACE--

THIS PLACE IS YOUR ONLY HOPE, SUPERMAN.

FOR MANY YEARS, IT WAS A BASE OF OPERATIONS FOR A GREAT **DETECTIVE** OF HISTORY...A HERO NAMED **CARTER HALL**...

NTH METAL.

THIS **FRAGMENT** IS ONE OF THE LAST **PURE** PIECES LEFT IN THE UNIVERSE.

IT'S THE ONLY MATERIAL CAPABLE OF GIVING **VASTLY DIFFERENT** POWERS TO THOSE WHO POSSESS IT. ETERNAL LIFE. FLIGHT. MYSTICAL VISION...IT **DEFIES** ALL RULES OF SCIENCE AND MAGIC.

AND AT CERTAIN TIMES, IT SEEMS TO **BROADCAST** A STRANGE KIND OF ENERGY.

HAWKMAN.

OUR STORY SOUNDS CRAZY, BUT THOUSANDS OF YEARS AGO, HE AND I WERE STABBED WITH A **DAGGER** OF A MYSTERIOUS SUBSTANCE AND ENTERED A CYCLE OF **REINCARNATION** THAT SPANNED HISTORY.

FOR MANY LIVES, WE FOUGHT TOGETHER AS PARTNERS, **PROTECTING** THE WORLD FROM EVIL... BUT CARTER NEVER STOPPED SEARCHING FOR ANSWERS ABOUT THE **MATERIAL** THAT STARTED THE WHOLE CYCLE.



LIKE WE FELT IN THAT MOUNTAIN.

YES. CARTER CAME TO BELIEVE THAT NTH METAL WAS FROM SOMEWHERE **BEYOND** OUR COSMOLOGY. HE SEARCHED FOR CLUES ABOUT ITS ORIGINS IN HISTORY, FOLKLORE...

WHAT HE FOUND WERE **WARNINGS**, CLAIMS THAT THE METAL CAME FROM **EVIL** AND LEAD TO EVIL, BUT CARTER WOULDN'T ACCEPT IT.

OVER THE YEARS, HE RECRUITED THE BEST PEOPLE HE COULD FIND TO HELP HIS SEARCH...PILOTS. HEROES.

INVENTORS.

ADVENTURERS WHO WOULD **CHALLENGE THE UNKNOWN** WITH HIM.



CY, YOU'RE **SHAKING**.

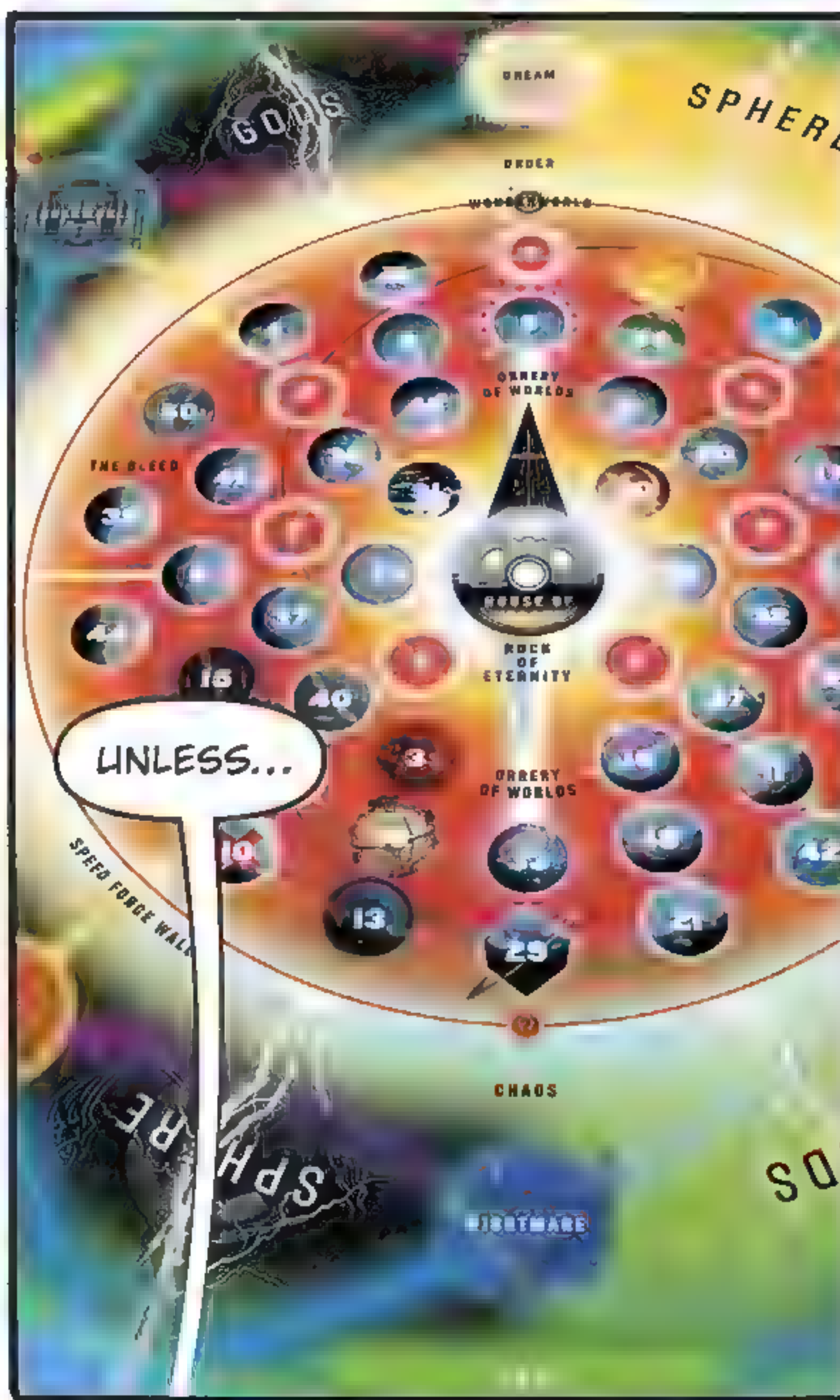
THAT ENERGY. IT'S EVEN WORSE HERE. SOMETHING'S GETTING **CLOSER**.

WE **FOUGHT** OVER IT, HE AND I. BUT NOT LONG AGO, HE FELT HIS TEAM WAS READY TO GET ANSWERS.

TO **TRAVEL** TO THE OTHER SIDE.

STOP BEING CRYPTIC. WHAT ARE YOU GETTING AT, KENDRA?





ALL I SEE IS THE
BACK OF A MAP.

UNTIL RECENTLY, THAT'S
ALL ANY OF US SAW. EVERYONE
BELIEVED THE BUILDING BLOCKS OF
REALITY WERE **MATTER** AND **ANTI-
MATTER**. BUT NOT LONG AGO,
ASTRONOMERS DISCOVERED
A **THIRD** MATERIAL.

AND THE SCARY THING
IS, IT TURNS OUT DARK MATTER
AND DARK ENERGY ACTUALLY MAKE
UP THE GREAT MAJORITY OF OUR
UNIVERSE. THIS STUFF WE
CAN'T SEE OR FEEL.



SO NOW LOOK AT THE
MAP AND IMAGINE NTH METAL
CONNECTING US TO A
REALM MUCH OLDER AND
MUCH VASTER THAN OURS.
AN OCEANIC, SUBCONSCIOUS
REALM OUR **TINY**
MULTIVERSE FLOATS
ON.



IF THIS IS
TRUE, IT WOULD
CHANGE EVERYTHING
WE KNOW ABOUT
EVERYTHING.

WHAT
PROOF DO YOU
HAVE?



PROOF? HA. YOU
SOUND LIKE I DID. CARTER
SENT A TEAM TO PROVE ME
WRONG. THE ENTIRE MOUNTAIN
WAS **RIPPED** OUT OF REALITY.
THE LAST TRANSMISSIONS
WE GOT FROM THEM
WERE **SCREAMS**.

SCREAMS
ABOUT WHOLE
WORLDS OF
NIGHTMARE,
OF EVIL.

PLEAS TO
SHUT THE DOOR,
AND **NEVER** OPEN
IT AGAIN.



AND A WARNING
FROM **RED TORNADO**
JUST BEFORE WE LOST
CONTACT. A WARNING ABOUT
A...THING DOWN THERE. HE
CALLED IT A "**GREAT
DRAGON**." A BEAST THAT
PROWLED THE DARK.
AND A NAME.

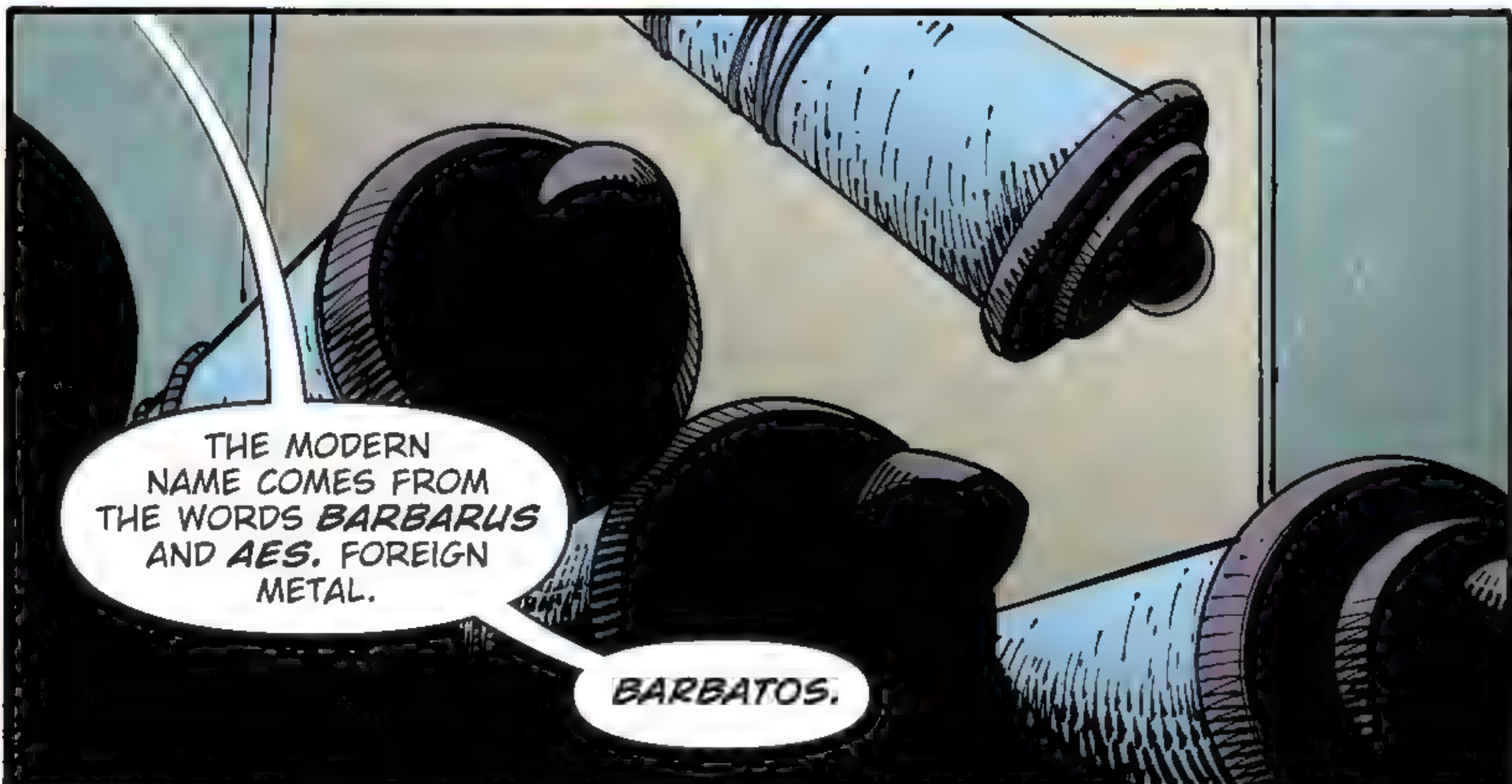
WHAT
NAME?

CARTER HAD A **JOURNAL**,
BATMAN...IT'S BEEN LOST
EVER SINCE HE FOLLOWED
THE CHALLENGERS INTO
THE DARK.



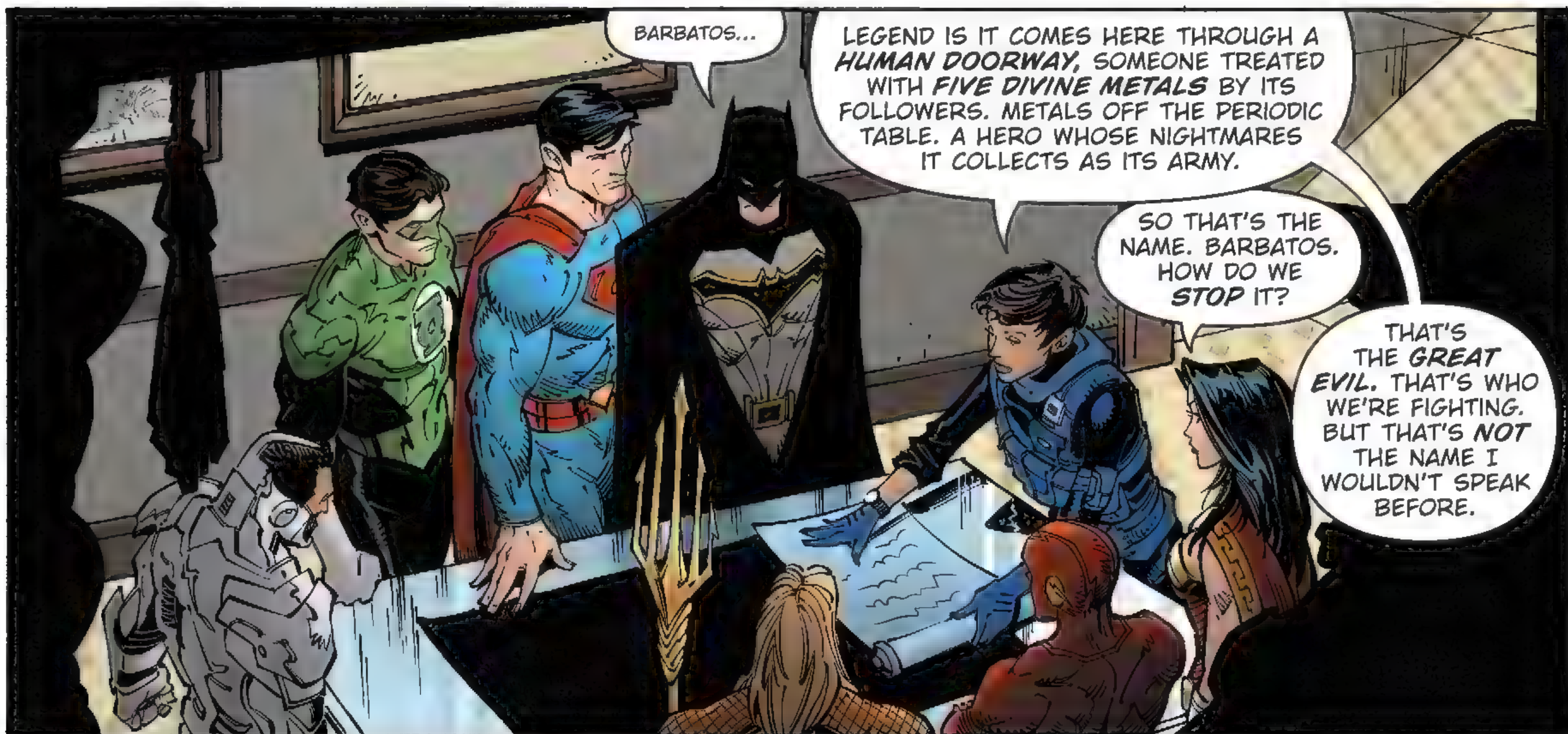
BUT I SEARCHED THE CLUES HE LEFT HERE.
AND WHAT I FOUND IS RECORD OF A **BEAST**
SEEN IN VISIONS, TRANSMISSIONS THROUGH
HIGH METALS. AN ORIGINAL BEING.
**MATTER. ANTIMATTER. AND
NOW DARKNESS.**

I'VE FOUND
MANY NAMES FOR
IT IN HISTORY. A
DARK-HORNED GOD
OF NIGHTMARE. OF
CURSED STORIES.
I SEE IT HIDDEN IN
OTHER **DEITIES**.
SET. LORD OF THE
RABISU. ALL PRAYED
TO THROUGH
METALS BY THE
DARK TRIBE,
ENEMY OF THE
BIRDS.



THE MODERN
NAME COMES FROM
THE WORDS **BARBARUS**
AND **AES**. FOREIGN
METAL.

BARBATOS.

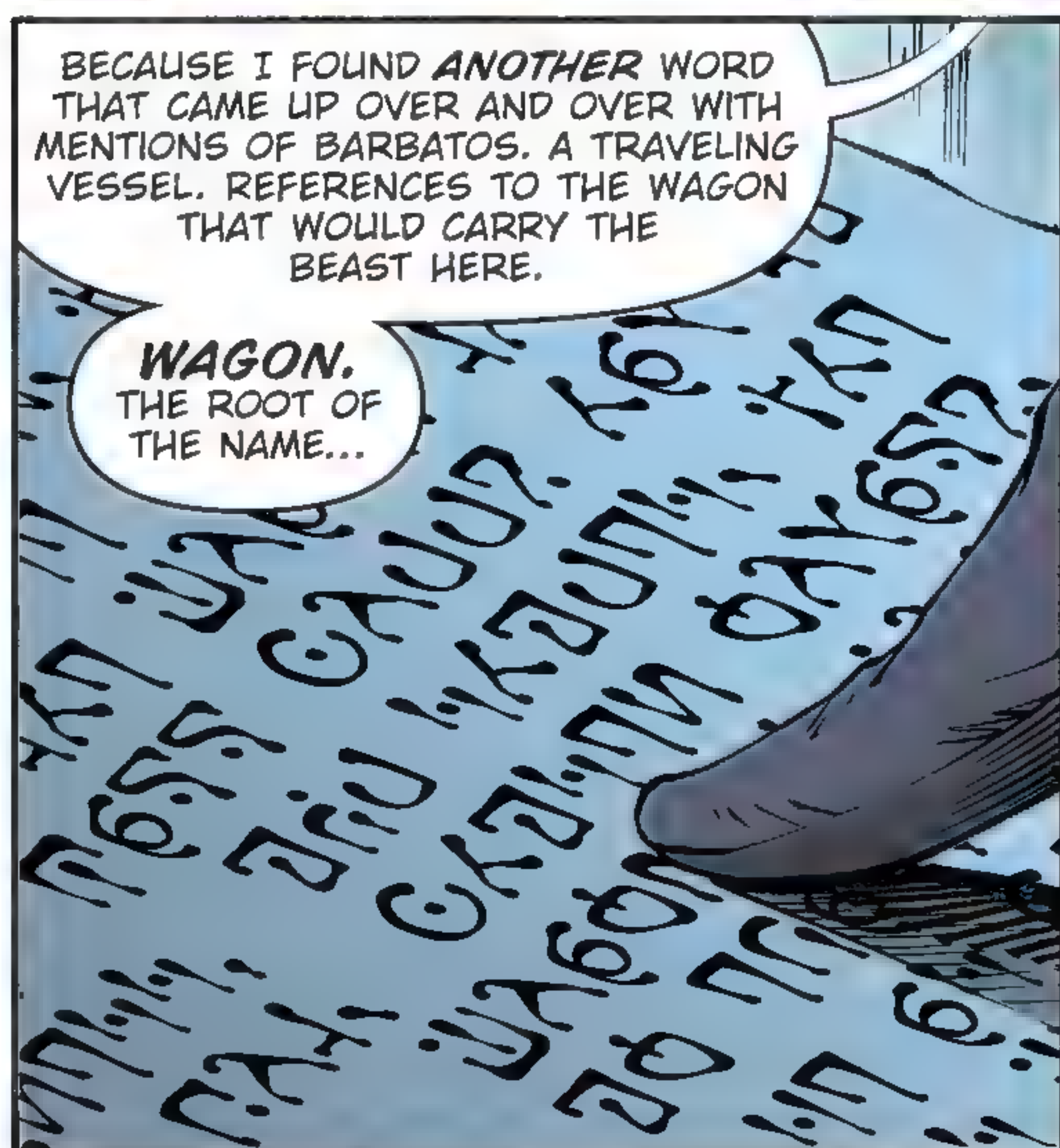


BARBATOS...

LEGEND IS IT COMES HERE THROUGH A **HUMAN DOORWAY**, SOMEONE TREATED WITH **FIVE DIVINE METALS** BY ITS FOLLOWERS. METALS OFF THE PERIODIC TABLE. A HERO WHOSE NIGHTMARES IT COLLECTS AS ITS ARMY.

SO THAT'S THE NAME. BARBATOS. HOW DO WE STOP IT?

THAT'S THE **GREAT EVIL**. THAT'S WHO WE'RE FIGHTING. BUT THAT'S **NOT** THE NAME I WOULDN'T SPEAK BEFORE.



BECAUSE I FOUND **ANOTHER** WORD THAT CAME UP OVER AND OVER WITH MENTIONS OF BARBATOS. A TRAVELING VESSEL. REFERENCES TO THE WAGON THAT WOULD CARRY THE BEAST HERE.

WAGON.
THE ROOT OF THE NAME...



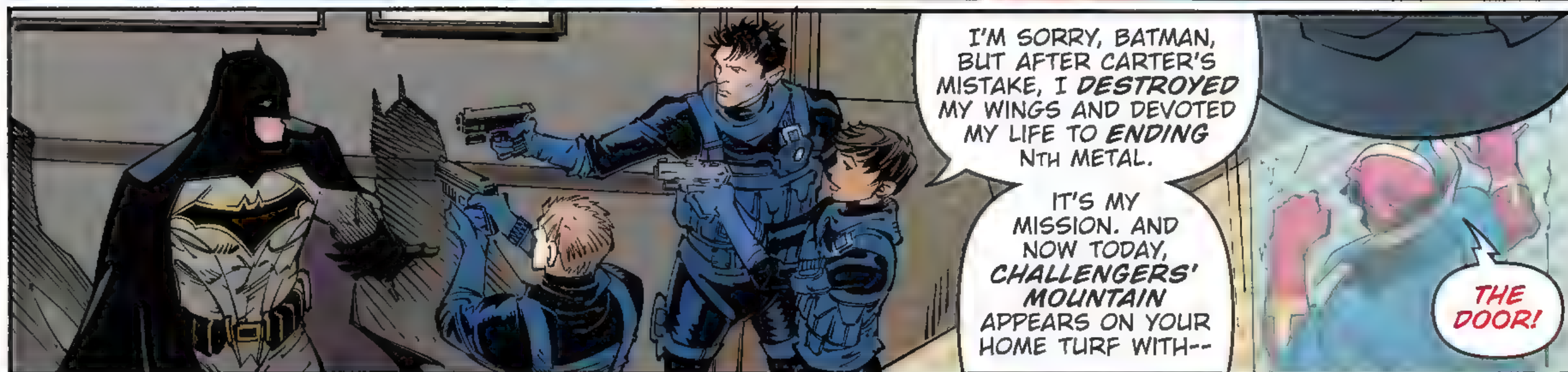
..."WAYNE."

BATMAN.
THE ONE WHO WILL LET HIM IN.



HANG ON. YOUR THEORY IS THAT A BEING AS OLD AS THE UNIVERSE HAS BEEN TARGETING **BATMAN** FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS FROM A DARK MULTIVERSE.

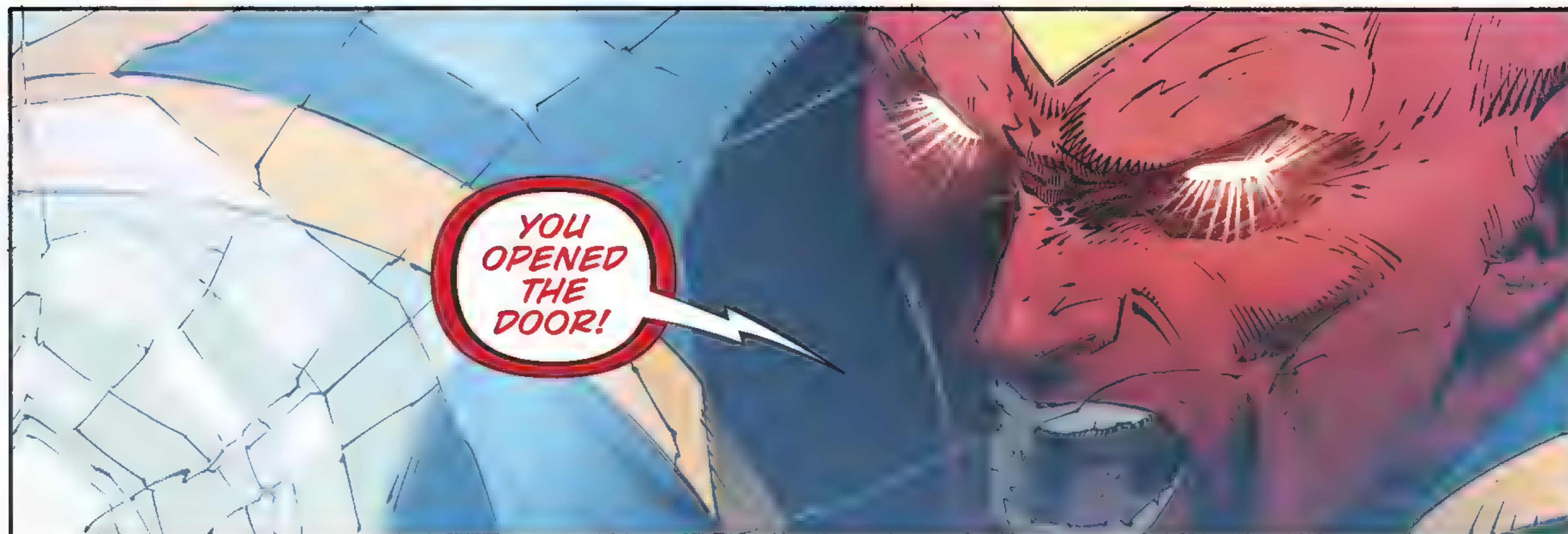
PLEASE TELL ME THIS **ISN'T** WHAT YOU'VE BEEN INVESTIGATING.



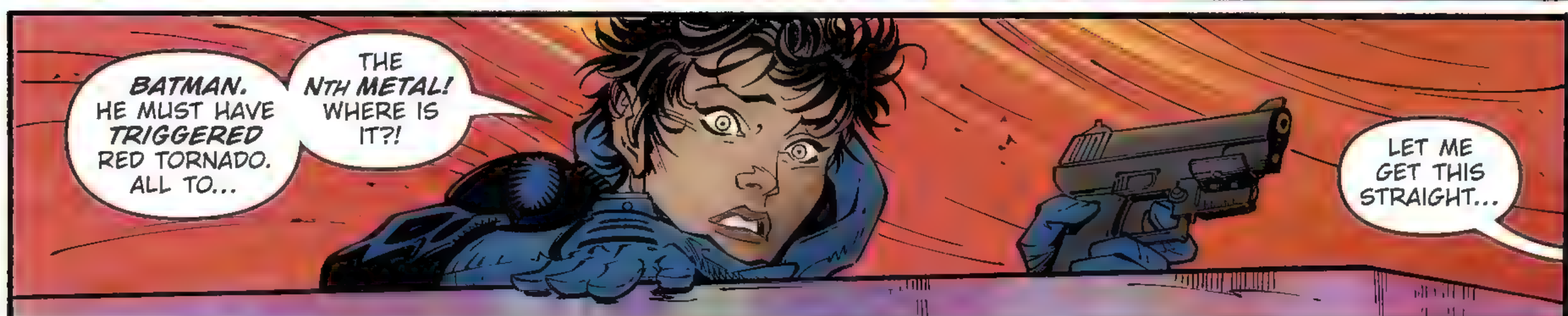
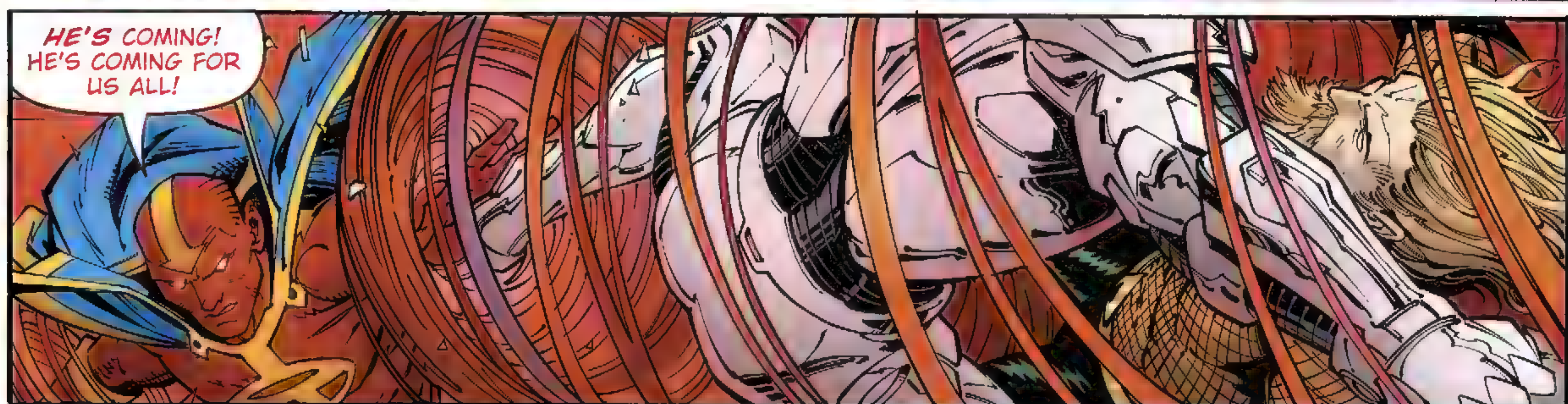
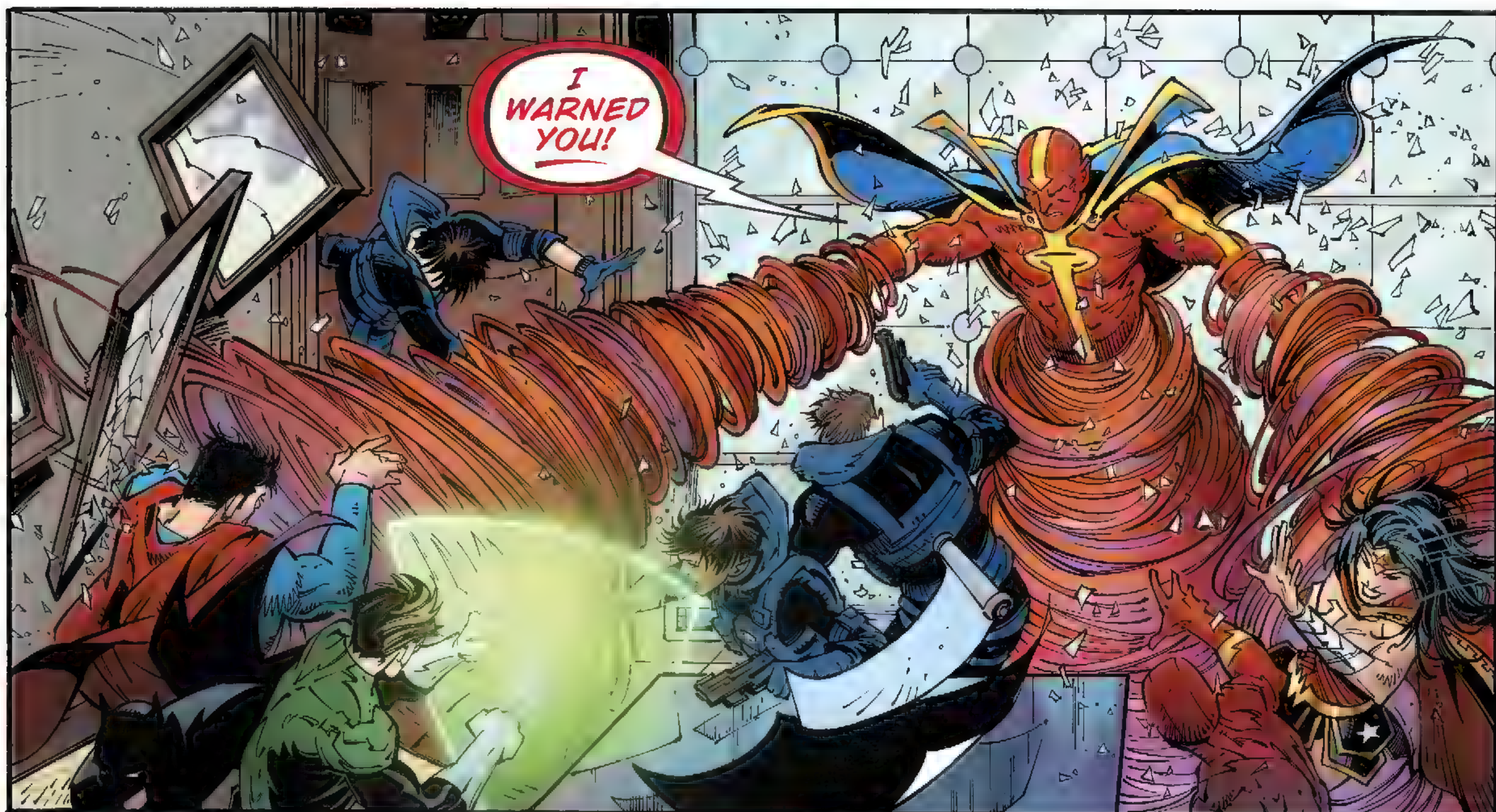
I'M SORRY, BATMAN, BUT AFTER CARTER'S MISTAKE, I **DESTROYED** MY WINGS AND DEVOTED MY LIFE TO **ENDING** NTH METAL.

IT'S MY MISSION. AND NOW TODAY, **CHALLENGERS' MOUNTAIN** APPEARS ON YOUR HOME TURF WITH--

THE DOOR!



YOU OPENED THE DOOR!



"...IT'S SOMETHING
STATE OF THE ART."



SCREEE!

QUIET, BOY,
QUIET!

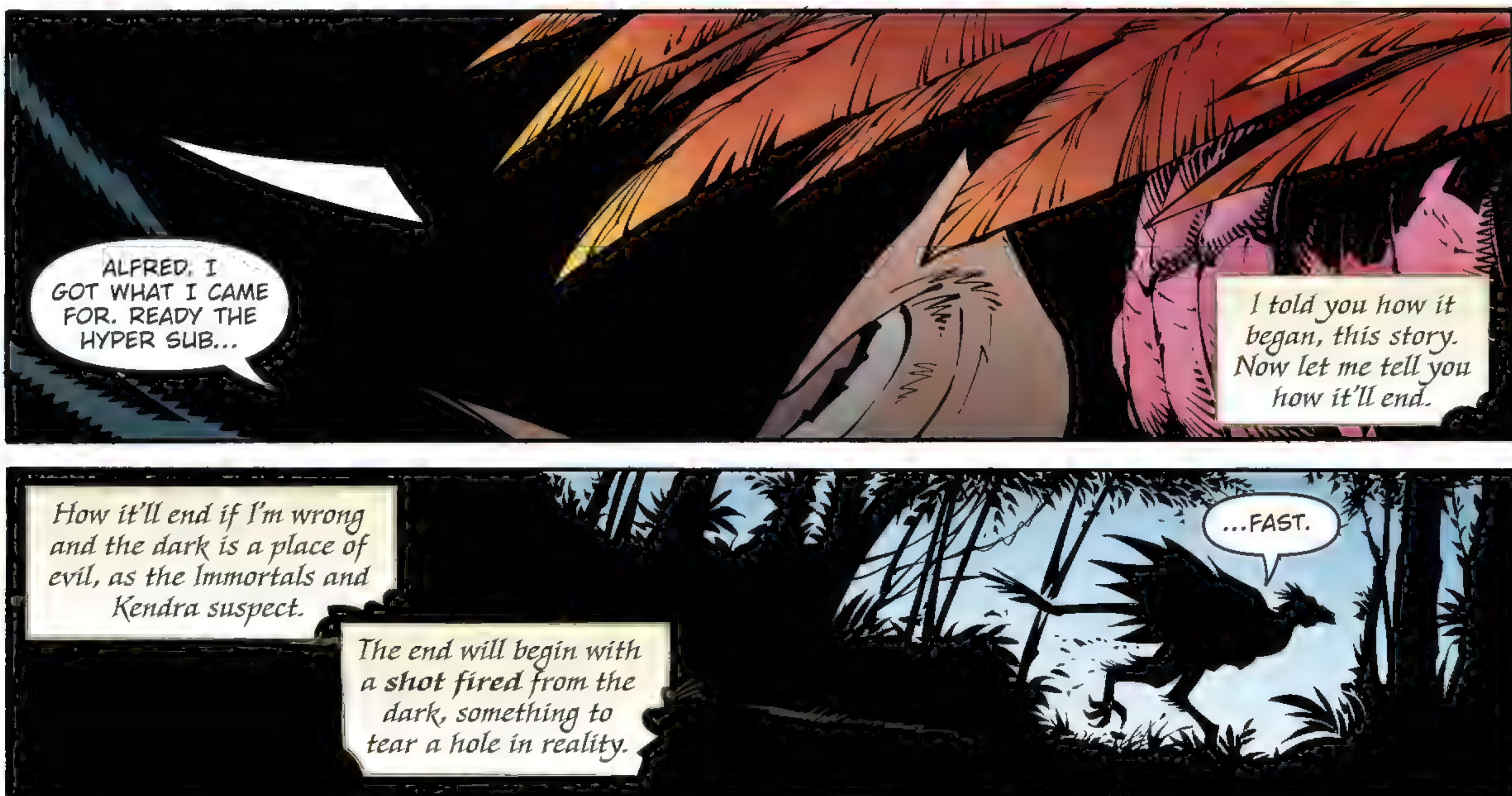
ALFRED, I
GOT WHAT I CAME
FOR. READY THE
HYPER SUB...

I told you how it
began, this story.
Now let me tell you
how it'll end.

How it'll end if I'm wrong
and the dark is a place of
evil, as the Immortals and
Kendra suspect.

The end will begin with
a shot fired from the
dark, something to
tear a hole in reality.

...FAST.



And then, as dark energy pours into this world, the visions will start. Visions to those attuned to the power of Nth Metal...



WHAT ARE THESE? THESE... PREMONITIONS?

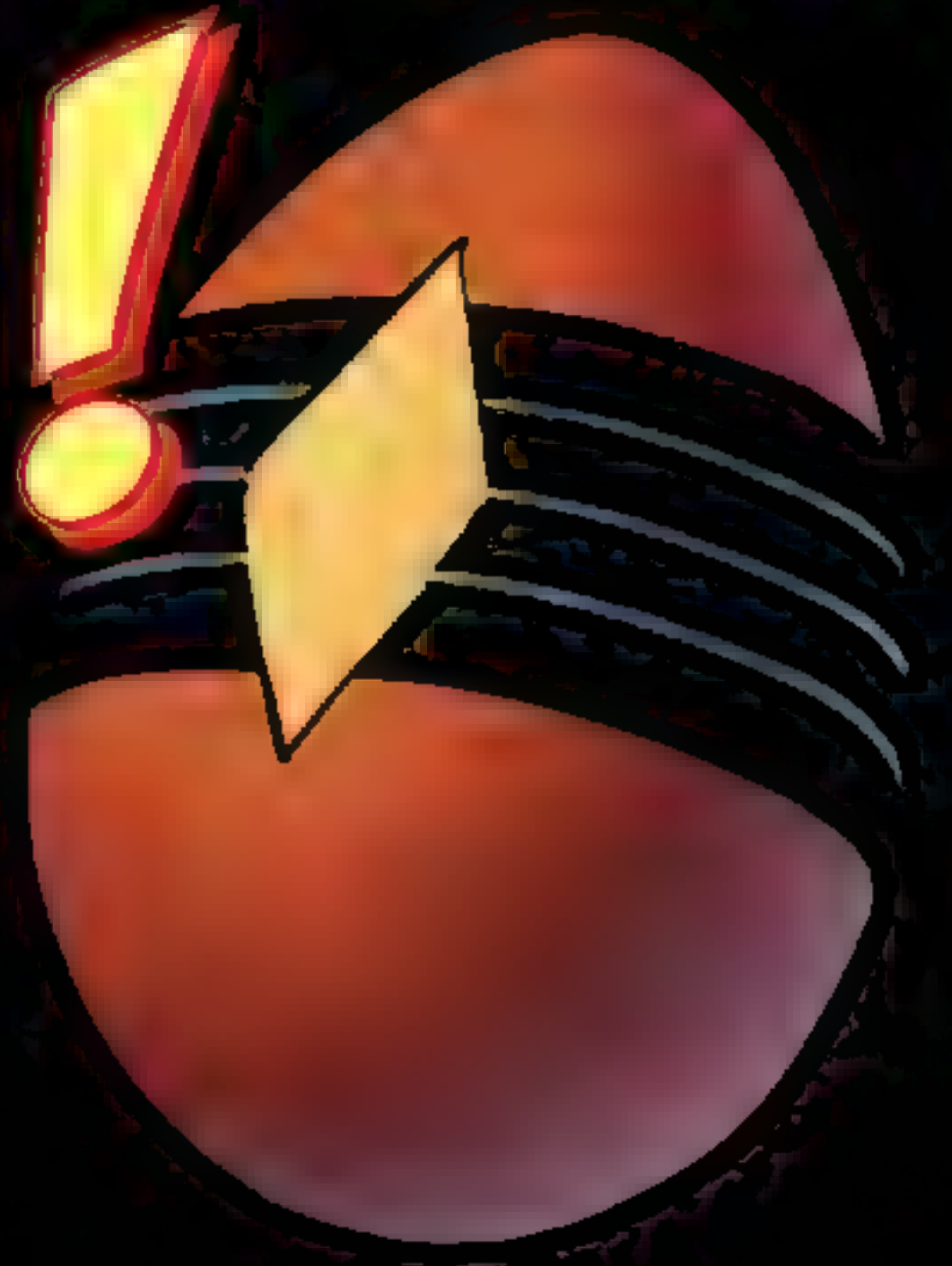
...a glimpse of what's coming. A dark army...



WHAT IN...? I DON'T UNDERSTAND... SOMETHING GETTING... CLOSER?



...already on its way here.



BATCAVE

On its way here to find
the one Barbatos has
been after all these years.
The wagon for the
dark-horned god...

...Son of the
House of
Wayne.

SIR, I'M
BEGGING YOU,
TELL THEM--

PLEASE, ALFRED. I'M
TOO CLOSE TO THE ANSWERS
AND WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF TIME.
THE FALSE ENERGY SIGNATURES I
LEFT BEHIND WON'T FOOL THE
LEAGUE FOR LONG. I NEED TO
PROTECT THEM. I NEED TO
PROTECT EVERYONE.

I'VE NEVER SEEN
A **PURE** SAMPLE...NOT
SINCE BEFORE THE PURGE.
THE DARK ENERGY COMING
THROUGH IT...INCREDIBLE. IT
MUST BE WHY THE BRAALIANS
WEREN'T WATCHING MONGUL.
BRAAL IS HEAVILY
MAGNETIC...

I IMAGINE IF
WE LOOK AT PLANETS
WITH HEAVY METAL
CORES, WE'LL FIND
THOSE DAMN **SIGNS**
WE MISSED.

SIR, LOOK
UP FROM THAT.
SOMETHING'S
HAPPENING...

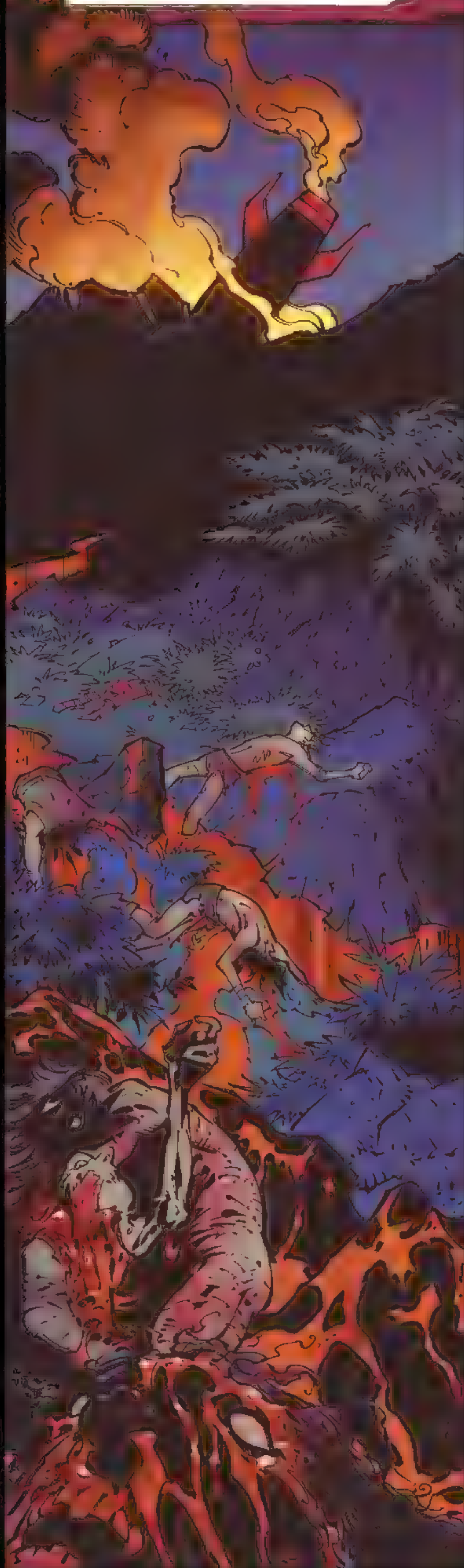
And if Wayne has been
prepared by the Judas Tribe, if
the agents of Barbatos have
set in motion its coming...

*...then there will
be no running
for him.*

*No running for
any of us.*



*Barbatos has been after its
target since the dawn of man.
It first saw him in a final
moment of crisis.*



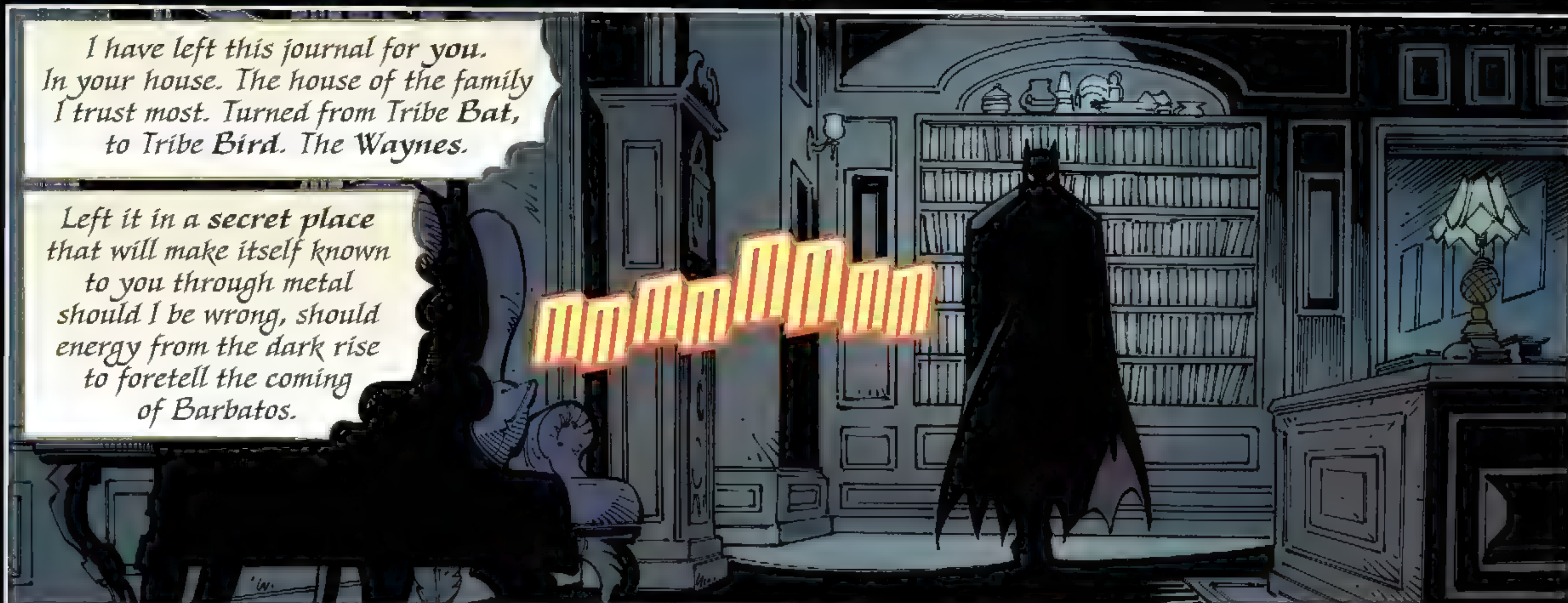
*And now, if you are
reading this, a
second moment is
upon us.*



LISTEN.
HUMMING. IT'S
LIKE A...

TUNING
FORK...
YES.

IT'S COMING
FROM
UPSTAIRS.



*I have left this journal for you.
In your house. The house of the family
I trust most. Turned from Tribe Bat,
to Tribe Bird. The Waynes.*

*Left it in a secret place
that will make itself known
to you through metal
should I be wrong, should
energy from the dark rise
to foretell the coming
of Barbatos.*



*You may feel it coming already.
You may have felt it your
whole life. Watching. Shaping
from the dark. The final case.
I give this journal to you for a
simple reason...*

HERE? IN
THE STUDY...
ALL THIS
TIME...?

*...to say that I'm sorry.
I'm sorry that I was
wrong. And I'm sorry for
everything coming.*



*But tonight I still have hope that you will
never find this book. That it will stay
hidden. Now, I venture into the dark myself.
Explorer. Detective. Proud member of
Tribe of the Bird.*

*I follow that first
great dream of the
true tribes.*

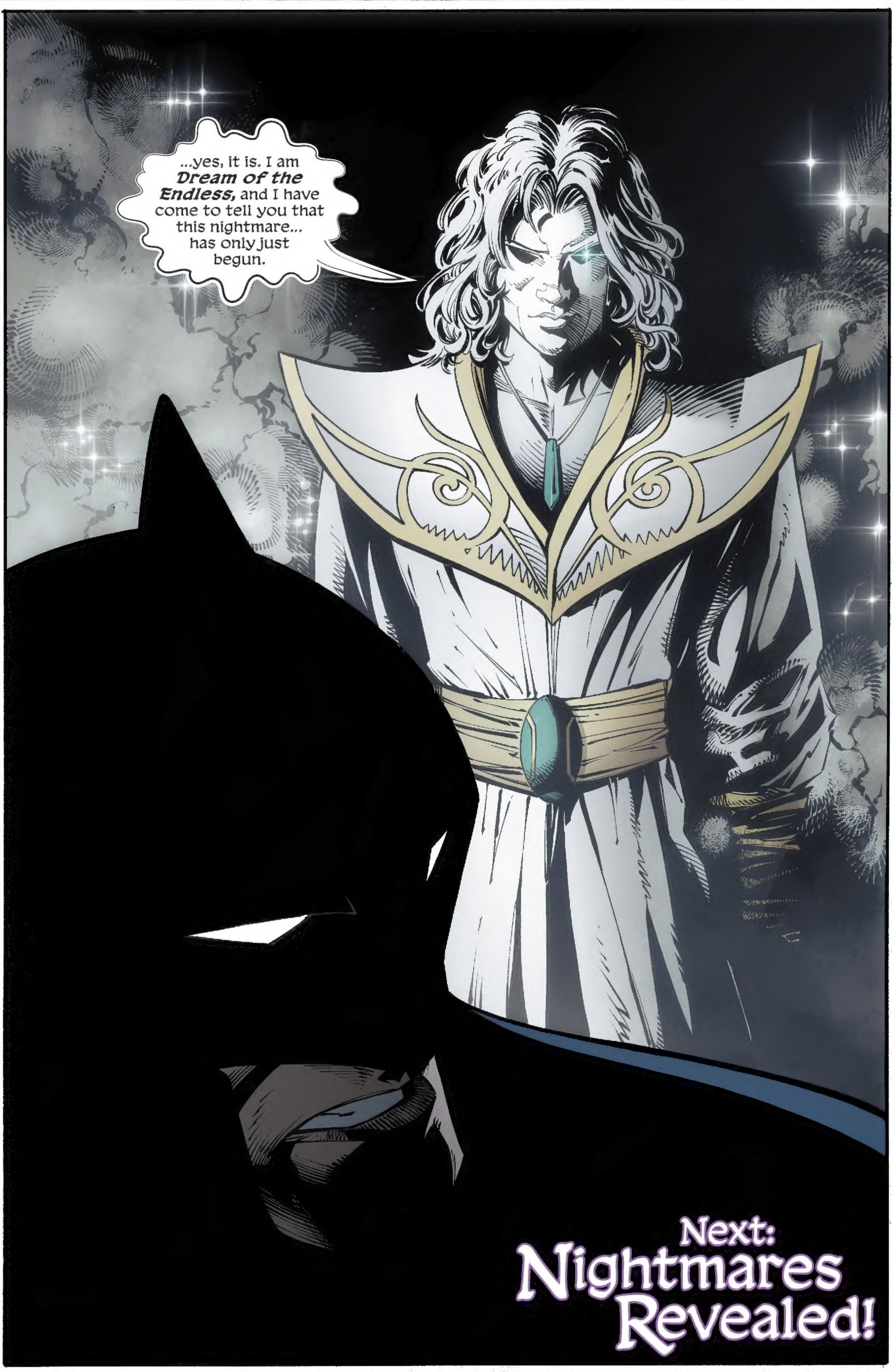
*Signed,
Carter Hall.*



THE
JOURNAL
OF CARTER
HALL...

MY GOD,
SO IT'S ALL
TRUE.

Yes,
Batman...



...yes, it is. I am
***Dream of the
Endless***, and I have
come to tell you that
this nightmare...
has only just
begun.

Next:
**Nightmares
Revealed!**

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A 4-PART STORY BEGINNING IN ISSUE #965!

WRITTEN BY JAMES TYNION IV ART BY EDDY BARROWS

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DARK NIGHTS

METAL

Here it is! The full checklist for the limited series,
the one-shots and all of the tie-ins!

DARK DAYS: THE FORGE Nº1	6/14/17
DARK DAYS: THE CASTING Nº1	7/12/17
DARK NIGHTS: METAL Nº1	8/16/17
TEEN TITANS Nº12	9/13/17
DARK NIGHTS: METAL Nº2	9/13/17
BATMAN THE RED DEATH Nº1	9/20/17
NIGHTWING Nº29	9/20/17
BATMAN THE MURDER MACHINE Nº1	9/27/17
SUICIDE SQUAD Nº26	9/27/17
BATMAN THE DAWNBREAKER Nº1	10/4/17
GREEN ARROW Nº32	10/4/17
DARK NIGHTS: METAL Nº3	10/11/17
BATMAN THE DROWNED Nº1	10/18/17
BATMAN THE MERCILESS Nº1	10/25/17
THE FLASH Nº33	10/25/17
BATMAN THE DEVASTATOR Nº1	11/1/17
JUSTICE LEAGUE Nº32	11/1/17
BATMAN LOST Nº1	11/8/17
HAL JORDAN & THE GREEN LANTERN CORPS Nº32	11/8/17
THE BATMAN WHO LAUGHS Nº1	11/15/17
JUSTICE LEAGUE Nº33	11/15/17
DARK NIGHTS: METAL Nº4	12/13/17
HAWKMAN FOUND Nº1	12/20/17
DARK NIGHTS: METAL Nº5	1/10/18
DARK NIGHTS: METAL Nº6	2/14/18

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